



SIR GEORGE YOUNG: dropped four years ago, now joining the whips office



TIMOTHY EGGER: to replace Angela Rumbold as schools minister



DAVID MELLOR: arts minister, chief beneficiary of the reshuffle

International battle likely on power sale

By RICHARD FORD AND DEREK HARRIS

THE ownership of Britain's electricity generating industry may be the subject of an international battle after John Wakeham's announcement yesterday that he was prepared to negotiate a private sale of PowerGen, the smaller of the two non-nuclear generating companies.

The Hanson industrial conglomerate had expressed an interest in buying PowerGen, and the energy secretary told the Commons he would also consider any serious offer for National Power, the bigger company.

If Hanson makes an offer, Mr Wakeham intends to invite other companies to bid for PowerGen. That might

arouse the interest not only of such British firms as GEC and Trafalgar House, but also West German companies with extensive energy interests.

The suggestion that PowerGen might be sold to the highest bidder rather than offered to small shareholders as with previous privatisations has arisen because of fears that there might not be sufficient interest among investors to achieve the flotation of the two power companies at a full price.

The sale of PowerGen could raise more than £1 billion and yesterday Mr Wakeham said that the costs involved were likely to be "substantially lower" than those for a flotation. A tender sale might raise more money since the buyer may pay a premium for gaining 100 per cent control.

Mr Wakeham, who said discussions would continue with Hanson in parallel with preparations for the flotation of the two companies next February, promised that if Hanson made a binding offer, he would invite other companies to tender.

The government would attach conditions to any sale rather than by holding a "golden share". Those would include a restriction on a purchaser's ability to dispose of all or a substantial part of the business. A private bidder would have to give a commitment on environmental work and ensure that taxpayers shared in profits from any later property disposals. However, Mr Wakeham did not rule out foreign ownership.

Lord Marshall, former chairman of the Central Electricity Generation Board, said that a private sale had been regarded by his board as "an option of last resort".

Electricity debt, page 23



Lord Hanson: "serious interest in making offer"

Rushdie appeal

Mohammed Fayyaz, the distributor of a film which depicts the death of author Salman Rushdie, is to lodge an appeal today against a ban on its video release. Page 3

Leading article, page 13

Unified anthem

East Germany's national anthem, *Aufstehen aus Ruinen* (arisen from ruins), looks like disappearing when the joint German parliament meets to vote on a new anthem. Page 9

Leading article, page 13

Fossil clue

A fossil found by scientists on the north Yorkshire moors has shed new light on climatic changes. Page 17

Degree results

Degrees from the University of Sheffield are published today. Page 35

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Annual drought alarms go off

By MICHAEL HORNELL

THE annual Great British Drought ended yesterday after 15 consecutive days without rain in most sunbaked areas of the country. But alarmist cries of a water shortage were repudiated by the Water Services Association, which said all but the eastern side is better off than last year due to heavy winter rain.

About four million people are enduring 11 localised hosepipe bans in the South-east and Yorkshire, and tourists are placing uncomfortable demands on the South-west.

However, Christopher Patten,

the environment secretary who has overall responsibility for water, has been told no further restrictions are necessary.

A spokesman for the environment department said: "If people abide by hosepipe bans and any other restrictions there is no problem. It's not a crisis. We haven't had a single application for a standpipe."

The department has issued 25 drought orders under the Water Act giving water companies the power to ban commercial car washes and stop the watering of parks and gardens but none has been enforced yet. Nevertheless, so-called "water police" from the water companies, who have powers to prosecute over unauthorised use of water backed by fines of up to £400, have begun patrolling areas where restrictions have been imposed.

Electricity generation is a

public sector activity in

France but there are large

utilities in both Belgium and

Spain. With the single Euro-

pean market near, approaches

from countries within the EC

would presumably be accept-

able. There seems less cer-

tainty that any from North

America would be as welcome,

although interest from there

might be more likely to be

to take a share in a

consortium approach. GE

Capital, part of General Elec-

tic, and AGAs are two big

transatlantic players.

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Lord Marshall: "serious

interest in making offer"

Forecast, page 22

Arts win higher profile in Thatcher reshuffle

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

THIRTY-ONE ministers were involved in a complicated reshuffle of the middle ranks of the government yesterday, which strengthened the departments of education and transport and increased the pro-European tendency at the Foreign Office.

It also signalled that the departments of employment and energy may well be merged with bigger ministries in the next parliament. Both lost a minister of state and gained only a parliamentary secretary to reflect diminishing responsibilities.

The chief beneficiary of the reshuffle was David Mellor,

who was given his own department for the first time taking

over as arts minister. Mr Mellor, who becomes a privy

counselor, will complete the

remaining stages of the

Broadcasting Bill, which he

has been seeing through the

Commons as Home Office

Minister of State. The govern-

ment intends to give the arts a

higher profile.

One change which intrigued

MPs was that Sir George

Young, dropped as a junior

minister four years ago, was

brought back as number three

in the Conservative whips

office. Some MPs saw his

return as an olive branch to

the party rebels on the

community charge, of which

he was a critic. Another

surprise move was the resigna-

tion as Minister of State for

Energy of Peter Morrison to

become the prime minister's

parliamentary eyes and ears as

her parliamentary private

secretary.

Mr Morrison, a one-time

whip and former deputy chair-

man of the party, has long

been one of Mrs Thatcher's

inner circle. In the run-up to

the next election she has

clearly felt the need to have at

her side a trusted and experi-

enced figure. Mrs Thatcher's

previous PPS, Mark Leno-

Boyd, becomes a parlia-

mentary secretary at the

Foreign Office as Minister of

State in place of Francis

Maude, more of a Euro-

scopic, who will take over the

vacant job of Financial Sec-

retary at the Treasury after

completing his present visit to

China. In other changes at the

Treasury, the Earl of Caith-

ness also moved to the For-

eign Office as Minister of

State while Richard Ryde

was promoted from economic

secretary to his old post, Jean

Maples, the MP for Lowishaw

West and the only back-

bencher in the reshuffle, was

made economic secretary.

In New York stocks tumbled

during frenzied trading.

The Dow Jones Industrial

average fell more than 1.5

points before recovering some

Backbench explosion as Renton cracks the whip

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister's cabinet reshuffle yesterday was disrupted by a ferociously outspoken attack on her chief whip by a maverick Conservative MP who was in no danger of figuring in her ministerial changes.

Nicholas Winterton, MP for Macclesfield, dispensed with the traditional courtesies surrounding dealings between the whips' office and errant backbenchers to accuse Timothy Renton of discourtesy and impertinence. Mr Renton's patience with an MP who has been a frequent rebel and open critic of ministers apparently snapped last week when he sent him a letter complaining about his voting record and a long succession of verbal assaults on ministers.

In what seems to foreshadow a tough new disciplinary attitude to persistent offenders, a copy of the letter was sent to Mr Winterton's constituency chairman and area chairman. Mr Winterton refused yesterday to publish Mr Renton's letter. So did Mr Renton. But the whips' office said the MP was free to do so, and wondered why he had not.

Friends of Mr Winterton interpreted the letter as a threat that he would have the Tory whip withdrawn unless he took the line. Friends of Mr Renton maintained that there had been no such threats. In any event, Mr Winterton unleashed a venomous volley at Mr Renton, and for good measure sent a copy to the prime minister.

"I am surprised and disappointed at the impertinent and discourteous tone of your letter," he began. "Having been a member of the group of Tory MPs who campaigned to get our present prime minister elected to the leadership of the Conservative party in 1975 against the pressure and might of the party establishment at that time . . . More of the same followed. Then he told Mr Renton: "I am not prepared to receive ill-considered lectures from you or any member of the whips' office, all of whom have been in the House for fewer years than I have."

"As for your reference to my commitment and loyalty, this criticism is beyond contempt. My commitment to politics is 100 per cent and my loyalty is to my country, my constituency and a way of life."

He went on: "You refer to my behaviour and attitude in the House. Even since I came into politics 28 years ago I have been forceful and positive and have been totally committed to the causes which I have taken up."

Letters from the chief whip to rebel backbenchers are part and parcel of the gentlemanly manner in which such exchanges usually take place. Last Easter more than a dozen were sent letters complaining about their voting record. In Mr Winterton's case the correspondence continued until yesterday's explosion.

Mellor to give arts ministry a high profile

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE switch of arts ministers within two years of a general election is seen as a signal from Margaret Thatcher that the arts will be an election issue. Richard Luce, who had asked to go, has ensured that the government's record is defensible, and David Mellor will be expected to go on the attack with it.

Mr Mellor is being brought in undoubtedly because he has a higher profile than Mr Luce, according to observers, and at 41 he is an ambitious young minister looking at a cabinet job after the election if the government wins.

Against expectations Mr Luce won a great victory for the arts last autumn when he got a 12 per cent funding increase against an expected 2 per cent. It was a victory that not only relieved the burden on the subsidised arts but simultaneously defused accusations against the government of philistinism.

In 1985 Mr Luce, the only Falklands survivor of Lord Carrington's parliamentary Foreign Office team, followed the charismatic Lord Gowrie into the arts job. The act was considered a hard one to follow. Mr Luce admitted he had no knowledge of the arts but was "prepared to learn".

His tenure, the longest of any arts minister, is seen by political opponents and allies as even harder to follow than Lord Gowrie's.

His achievements began with his introduction of three-year funding for the arts, almost universally welcomed because it gave organisations perspective to plan into the future. It meant a commitment from the Treasury at a time when inflation was running at 3 per cent, but it became a pyrrhic victory when inflation began to take off.

Mr Luce will take the credit for introducing the mixture of private and public subsidy that has become known as "plural funding" by emphasising the self-help potential for the arts in getting sponsorship. Then came his coup last year, getting £66 million out of the Treasury to at least level the inflation erosion graph. He has got in place the principle of tax incentives for giving, if the terms are as yet modest, and the government's arts funding record now shows a respectable 22 per cent increase in its 11 years.

In March Mr Luce introduced the most dramatic change in arts policy, which may be seen as his greatest triumph or his greatest blunder. He has put in place the devolution of most of the Arts Council's 160 clients to enhanced regional boards to give the council space to devise a national arts strategy.

It was this over issue that Luke Rittner, secretary gen-

eral of the Arts Council, resigned in April, saying it was the end of the council and of the "arm's length" principle of government subsidy. Last night Mr Rittner paid tribute to the outgoing minister, but added: "It is very good that the prime minister has finally recognised that the arts are important in terms of votes, but I hope it does not mean an increase in the amount of government meddling."

The panegyric in the Commons for Mr Luce that greeted yesterday's first rumours that he was going was all the more unusual in that it came from Mark Fisher, the opposition arts spokesman: Channel 4 researchers putting together the profile of Mr Luce for Sunday's *President A Week In Politics* profile, compiled in the wake of his announcement of devolution guidelines, were unable to find anyone to say a word against him.

The full list of appointments is:

Privy Council Office: Minister of State, David Mellor (Minister for Arts). Ministry of Defence: Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Kenneth Carlisle. Department of Education and Science: Minister of State, Timothy Eggar; Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Michael Fallon. Department of Employment: Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Robert Jackson, Eric Forth, Viscount Ullswater.

Department of Energy: Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Colin Moynihan. Department of the Environment: Parliamentary Under-Secretaries, Patrick Nicholls, Robert Atkins (Minister for Sport), The Lord Strathclyde. Foreign Office: Ministers of State, The Earl of Caithness, Tristram Garel-Jones; Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Mark Lennox-Boyd. Home Office: Minister of State, Angela Rumbold.

Department of Trade and Industry: Ministers of State, Timothy Sainsbury, Lord Hesketh. Department of Transport: Minister of State, The Lord Brabazon of Tara; Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Christopher Chope. Treasury: Financial Secretary, Francis Maude; Paymaster General, Richard Ryder; Economic Secretary, John Maples. Whips' Office: Treasurer (deputy Chief Whip), Alastair Goodlad; Comptroller, Sir George Young.

Lord Caithness is expected to take over responsibility for southeast Asia, the Far East and the southern Pacific, but he will answer for the government in the Lords on all Foreign Office issues, including European affairs.

The transfer, together with Lord Denham's continued survival as chief whip, shows the shortage of high-calibre candidates for ministerial office in the so-called "house of experts". The Lords has 15 ministers plus six whips.

A clutch of hereditary peers in their thirties and forties are caught up in the annual carousel of ministerial jobs, landing each time where the legislation and the pressure is heaviest. This year Lord Tredegar has resigned as trade minister, after 13 years on the front bench, to find a job in industry.

Lord Caithness, who is moving to his seventh government department, was pensioned in long ago by Lord Whitelaw as a possible future leader of the house and he is still on course for that goal, even though his outside experience is limited to a stint as a chartered surveyor.

Lord Brabazon, another of Lord Whitelaw's original band of "boy scouts" and the outgoing Foreign Office minister in the Lords, has served in five departments, and now returns as minister of state to the transport department, where he has previously been a whip and a junior minister.

Lord Hesketh moves up another rung on the ministerial ladder from junior environment minister to minister of state at the trade and industry department. Lord Whitelaw marked down Lord Hesketh 40 autumn, as a potential chief whip to take over from Lord Denham.

Since he first stood at the dispatch box as a junior whip to answer a question about hedgerows, Lord Hesketh has shown a talent for thinking on his feet.

His place at the environment department will be taken by Lord Strathclyde, who was

persuaded to give up his hopes

of becoming an MEP to join the Lords front bench two years ago. The former whip Lord Ullswater gets his first ministerial job, taking Lord Strathclyde's place as junior employment minister.

Mr Maude leaves the Foreign Office, where, as a minister of state, he was closely involved in forming the plan

to bring stability to Hong

Kong by granting passports to 50,000 families. He also had responsibility for Western Europe and the EC, on which his views were seen as being close to those of the prime minister and a counterbalance to the more pro-Brussels elements in the Foreign Office.

Mr Maude, a leading figure in the Thatcherite No Turning

Back group, has had a rapid rise in politics since being elected MP for Warwickshire North in 1983, and at 37, is tipped for high office. However, his position in the Commons is at risk because he has only a 2,829 majority and is vulnerable to Labour at the next election.



Eric Smith has a farewell hug with his daughter Karen, holding a glass of soft drink, at her detention centre

Another turn on the peers' carousel

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE sideways shift of Lord Caithness from the Treasury to the Foreign Office indicates Margaret Thatcher's recognition of the need for more experienced foreign affairs spokesman in the upper house.

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Dealing with the joker in a painful reshuffle

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

RESHUFFLES have their lighter moments too. Harold Wilson once looked up in horror to see that the figure shown into his room in mid-shuffle was not the man he wished to appoint to a defence ministry job but his brother, also a Labour MP. Thinking rapidly, he offered him the non-governmental post of second church estates commissioner, which was graciously accepted.

Richard Ryder, promoted again yesterday, was a Conservative whip when he was called to the telephone and asked to go to Downing Street to be given his first ministerial post. He took it to be a

practical joke, ignored the call and had to be re-summoned later to be appointed to the ministry of agriculture.

Few prime ministers have enjoyed reshuffling. They have to make room to bring in new talent but the parting with colleagues is frequently painful. Attlee went for the short sharp shock, telling one minister with the temerity to inquire why his resignation was being demanded: "No bloody good, that's why."

Harold Wilson preferred shuffling ministries to shuffling people and his government changes usually failed to live up to the sometimes

bloody-mindedness of the sackings of one minister. His sacking of one minister was said to have been so convoluted in its efforts to spare pain that the man concerned telephoned back and said he would like to keep the job after all, not realising he had not been made an offer he could not refuse.

Wilson's bemusing complications imposed by the need to balance age, region, social background and party sectorised the process "a nightmarish multi-dimensional jigsaw puzzle". Margaret Thatcher has, if anything, chosen to make it more so with a policy of moving middle-rank ministers around Whitehall to broaden their experience on the way to the cabinet.

It looked easier in Harold Macmillan's time when most of the cabinet were either related to him or had accompanied him to Eton and tended to stay rather longer in their jobs. But then, on Friday July 13, 1962, he disposed of a third of his cabinet on the Night of the Long Knives. "Greater love hath no man," mourned Jeremy Thorpe, "than that he lay down his friends for his life".

Mrs Thatcher has not been particularly savage, either. She once declared: "I am not a good butcher, but I have learned to carve the joints." Inevitably, she has sacked more ministers than anyone else because she has been prime minister longer than anybody this century.

Ministerial teams, too, have grown. In the early 1900s the government made do with between 24 and 48 hours to justify their action as ministers intensified efforts to make them fall into line. In a letter to all 21 capped councils, Chris Patten, the environment secretary, demanded an explanation of the methods used to calculate revised community charges.

Appeal lost

John Cannan, aged 36, a former car salesman jailed for life in April last year after being convicted of kidnapping and murdering Shirley Banks in 1987, had his appeal dismissed yesterday. Cannan, of Leigh Woods, Bristol, was also given a life sentence for rape in 1986 and 10 years for attempted kidnapping in 1987. The Court of Appeal found that there had been no miscarriage of justice.

BNF fined

British Nuclear Fuels was fined £1,000 with £4,600 costs by Whitehaven magistrates yesterday after an incident at Sellafield, in Cumbria. On-site transfers of spent nuclear fuel were made in October without a working instrumentation package and alarm system. Henry Globe, for the Health and Safety Executive, said. However, government inspector had said there had been no danger of contamination.

No turning back for China-bound Maude

FRANCIS Maude's transfer to the Treasury came as he was on his way to Peking, where tomorrow he is to become the first British minister to visit China since the Tiananmen Square massacre.

Before leaving on a trip that includes a visit to Hong Kong, Mr Maude indicated that Britain wanted to improve relations with China and said that the European Community should respond to gestures by China and should not isolate it.

Mr Maude leaves the Foreign Office, where, as a minister of state, he was closely involved in forming the plan to bring stability to Hong Kong by granting passports to 50,000 families. He also had responsibility for Western Europe and the EC, on which his views were seen as being close to those of the prime minister and a counterbalance to the more pro-Brussels elements in the Foreign Office.

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Although the prime minister has said how sorry she feels for those who have a Whitehall desk and a ministerial car one day and nothing the next, she has not done the one thing which might have helped those who lose out. The top people's salary review board recommended that sacked ministers should at least be given three months' pay. So far as Downing Street could recall yesterday, nothing had been done to put that into practice.

Wardens will contribute to the cost of enforcement. Levels of fines have still to be decided.

Mr Parkinson said that the proposals form a coherent package of measures to help drivers move around London more easily and safely. "The controls on those who break parking laws will be tough, but the benefits to other drivers

and local communities will be considerable," he said.

However, Martin Mogridge, a transport specialist at University College London, said that the red route network might increase the ability of the roads to cope with more vehicles, although traffic speeds were unlikely to improve.

Dr Mogridge said: "In the past few years we have seen the introduction of urban clearways, one-way systems, parking controls, yellow box junctions and prohibited right turns, all of which increased traffic capacity, but none of which have increased traffic speeds, because increased capacity is soon taken up by increased numbers of vehicles."

Traffic in London: Further Develop

Amateur sleuths try to unravel chess conundrum

By ROBIN STACEY

THEORIES about where the body of Mrs Therese Clare Terry is buried in southern Ireland came in thick and fast yesterday. Wherever *The Times* is read, from New York to New Zealand, problem-solvers were pitting their wits against each other to try to unravel the clues of the

Most concurred with the analysis by Raymond Keene, chess correspondent of *The Times*, of the puzzle passed to him by Lancashire police. The conundrum in the form of a chess problem was devised by a man suspected of burying his girlfriend's body after her death in Ireland in January. The man told the police that if they solved the problem, they would find a shallow grave containing her body.

Explanations ranged from inspired slabs in the dark to meticulously argued mathematical analyses and chess endgame solutions. Many callers familiar with the part of southern Ireland identified by *The Times* chess correspondent offered possible burial sites.

Colin Russ, secretary of the British chess problem society, introduced a new dimension

to the puzzle with the observation that in chess problem-solving theory, pieces of one colour can move consecutively without interruption from the other colour.

From a problemist's point of view the puzzle resembles a 'series help stalemate' in which black can make a series of moves without white replying.

"In the context of this problem, white must make one move to stalemate the game which symbolises the imprisonment of the suspect. The white king has to find that move from all the possibilities, but on the 'timescale' this white move is missing. The suspect is cocking a snook at the police and saying 'you will never find this move'."

Adam Black, a computer analyst, programme, concluded that in rational phonetic spelling the letters EEC indicate the word "key" in reverse. The suspect is at the same time laughing at the police by punning that the problem is EEC (easy).

Christopher Cowley, a technology consultant, viewed the moves as a record of complex movements designed to establish an alibi for the suspect. On "Tuesday 23" the suspect reminds himself that "BK is S here", indicating which persona he is on this day. This is achieved by the black king giving a credit card to the black pawn and the carrying out of a hole-in-the-wall transaction erroneously "proving" that the black king was where he was not. Mr Cowley, from Royston, Hertfordshire, said. He points out that the suspect specifically states at the bottom of the moves that at M1 "IV is not equal to VI". The suspect is pretending to be in location IV when in fact he is in location VI.

Patricia Morrison interpreted the map drawn by the suspect as Northern Ireland, rather than southern Ireland. Mrs Morrison, of Radwinter, Essex, ties in the word "black" in the bottom left corner of the map with "the black north", a name for Ulster.

Dr Michael Wills, a general practitioner from Datchet, Berkshire, is convinced that the letters HG refer simply to "her garden". He believed her body will be found buried behind her home in Preston. Mrs Teresa Farrell, a housewife from Epsom, suggested Clare Castle as a burial site because of the quibble on Mrs Terry's middle name.

Eamon Ryan, the Tipperary-born proprietor of a London printing firm, said that the triangular shape of Britain in the map strongly resembles Gulliver's Oratory, a monument on the Dingle peninsula, in Kerry. The monument, a prayer house commemorating a 10th century monk, is known locally as the House of Gulliver. This would tie in with Mr Keene's theory that the body is buried at a place bearing the initials HG. Mr Ryan's suggestion was echoed by Ronald Parrott, a retired teacher from Egham, Surrey, who said the monument was also known as the "holy grail".

Michael Phelan, an amateur pilot from Weston-super-Mare, Avon, identified the symbol of an H in a circle as the legend for a helicopter pad on aeronautical maps. The crucial letters HG signify a hang-glider, the symbol for which is a pair of batman-like wings, he pointed out.

Peter Tenant, a business counsellor from Hexham, Northumberland, disagreed with Raymond Keene's interpretation of the symbol resembling a seven as a vector, indicating movement. He believes that in the entry for Tuesday 23, the figure refers to the numeral seven, and the coded sentence reports that the black king travelled from Dublin to Limerick along the N7 road.

Ian Gow, a former teacher from Sidcup, Kent, recognised the letters EOT as "end of term" and NPS as "new pupils start". Another caller thought EOT represented "end of transmission", a term familiar to computer users.

Gow: seeking prosecution of Granada executives



Mr Fletcher and Detective Sergeant Michael Tommey study a map of Ireland as part of their investigations into the disappearance of Therese Terry (right). The chess conundrum which police asked Mr Keene to help to solve is believed to contain clues to her whereabouts

DPP to study broadcast by 'pub bomber'

By MELINDA WITSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE DIRECTOR of Public Prosecutions will today consider whether to investigate Granada Television's screening last night of an interview with an unidentified man who confessed to planting the Birmingham pub bombs in 1974.

Producers of the *World in Action* programme, in which the unnamed and heavily-disguised man insisted that the six men convicted of the bombings were innocent, reaffirmed yesterday that they have no intention of telling police the identity or whereabouts of the alleged bomber, despite calls for their prosecution.

Lawyers of the Crown Prosecution Service watched the programme last night and will today consider what action to take, if any. Granada said that it does not expect to hear from the DPP about the programme, which follows its docu-drama, *Who Bombed Birmingham?*, last March in which four men alleged to have carried out the bombing were named.

Raymond Fitzwalters, head of Granada Television's current affairs department, said that the name of the alleged bomber, who described in great detail and with apparent remorse how he planted the bombs that killed 21 people, is already known to the authorities.

Ian Gow, Tory MP for Eastbourne, who resigned as Margaret Thatcher's parliamentary private secretary over the Anglo-Irish agreement, has attacked Granada and Nick Hayes, the programme's producer, for refusing to reveal the identity of the alleged bomber. He has called for the prosecution of senior Granada executives and of *World in Action* producers.

Mr Fitzwalters said: "When we put forward four names in *Who Bombed Birmingham?* we were attacked by the prime minister for engaging in 'trial by television'. Now we do the opposite in protecting the man's identity and we get the opposite response from the government. Some element of consistency in government policy would go a long way."

The authorities had not tried to follow up claims in the March programme. "One of the men is even in prison in Dublin and could be easily approached, but no one has



Gow: seeking prosecution of Granada executives

Explorer ventures into libel jungle

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE intrepid explorer Sir Ranulph Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes ventured into the depths of the Royal Courts of Justice yesterday in search of treasure. His counsel, Gareth Williams, QC, claimed "hefty" damages over a "nasty, mean-minded and spiteful" article "dripping with venom and acid".

Sir Ranulph, who is described by the *Guinness Book of Records* as the world's greatest living explorer, complained that the article libelled him by dismissing his exploits as never having achieved anything of scientific or historical worth.

Sir Ranulph, who is 46, was obliged in April to abandon a fourth attempt to be the first to walk unaided to the North Pole. Yesterday he was looking fit and tanned, having just flown in from the Dhofar region of Oman where he had been preparing for an archaeological expedition in search of Sumerian remains. He had come, Mr Williams told Mr Justice Michael Davies, to "nail the lie" that his efforts were valueless. The

article appeared in the Canadian magazine *Maclean's* in April 1988. The magazine has a circulation of 600,000. Although it sells only 400 copies in this country, two of those went to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Commonwealth Secretariat libraries. This, Sir Ranulph claimed, could be damaging to his future plans, putting a stranglehold on his expeditions abroad.

Sir Ranulph said: "The people in the FCO are, on expeditions, able to put a stranglehold on getting there. Because I don't have money to mount expeditions I have to have the goodwill of people in those places."

Sir Ranulph has led seven major expeditions and some 20 research projects since 1969, and won the Livingstone Gold Medal for expeditionary leadership. He has been presented with the Polar Medal "with clasps" by the Queen for his expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic, and has received an honorary doctorate from

Loughborough university. Mr Williams told the jurors: "You know the way of this world and you may think that, as often happens with someone who succeeds by his own efforts, smaller men with meaner hearts try to rubbish him." He said that the journalist Alan Fotheringham, who wrote the article, had shown himself to be a small man with a mean heart.

Kevin Doyle, editor of *Maclean's*, and Maclean Hunter, the publishers' co-defendants with Mr Fotheringham, deny the words complained of are defamatory.

Sir Ranulph said that when someone sent him a facsimile copy of the article he felt dejected and contaminated. He rang his wife as he always did when something good or bad happened. "This was maximum bad." He said that his chances of raising money through lecture tours could be affected by the article. "The damage it can do is enormous."

The hearing continues, and is expected to last three days.

Video industry growth goes into fast forward

By LIN JENKINS

IN THE jargon employed by marketing men to shed positive light, the video industry has been the fastest growing leisure market in the past five years.

Some people are, of course, worried by the public's enthusiasm for slumping in an armchair, remote control in hand, but those in the video industry are not among them. Nor are those in the film industry.

Mohammed Fayyaz says he is confident the British Board of Film Classification's ruling will be overturned. He says that Mr Rushdie's wish that the video should be released and any alleged defamation dealt with by the courts should prompt the video appeals committee to lift the ban. Should it do so, he plans to sub-title the film in English to reach a wider audience.

The appeal committee, headed by the former deputy director of public prosecutions, Peter Barnes, is expected to meet within two weeks. Only about six of the 4,500 films that come before the film classification board for licence to be released on video each year are banned.

Mr Fayyaz, whose Famous Video company of Tooting, south London, owns the copyright for distribution of the film outside India and Pakistan, is anxious to release the video before pirate copies flood the market. "Even though it has not yet been released on video in Pakistan, it has already turned up here. When demand is so high there is nothing you can do to stop people seeing it, whatever the censors say."

"I understand the appeals panel is independent and I cannot believe they can think that this film, which really amounts to a spoof, is criminally libellous."

The Muslim community in Britain has denounced the ban as an example of double standards in the fight of the refusal to withdraw *The Satanic Verses* from publication on the ground that it is blasphemous to the Islamic religion.

Community leaders dismiss the classification board's claim that it would expose Mr Rushdie to public hatred, saying he already is hated because of the book.

The film, *International Guerrillas*, portrays a fictional Mr Rushdie as a playboy drunkard who tortures and murders Muslims as part of an international plot before he is killed by a bolt of lightning.

James Ferman, director of the film board, said the decision was the most difficult it had ever taken. "Those of us who believe in freedom of expression believed strongly there was an argument for not increasing the grievance of the Muslim community and taking the film with a pinch of salt. It contains a very serious libel which is so overstated we wondered if it was possible to excuse it as stock melodrama."

partly because of satellite and cable channels. Last year the video industry netted £850 million, twice the revenue from cinema. So successful has it been that the government is discussing with Sir Richard Anerborough, head of the British Screen Advisory Council, the possibility of raising money from rentals and sales for Britain's beleaguered film makers.

The strong tradition of cinema in India and Pakistan, which combined produce around 1,000 titles a year, coupled with the linguistic isolation of many first generation immigrants has made the ethnic videotape market worth more than £8 million a year in Britain.

Mohammed Fayyaz, head of Famous Video, is understandably coy about the amount of money his business will lose if the controversial film depicting Salman Rushdie's death fails to get a licence. He may have taken the firm to the £1 million a year mark in nine years, but the sum paid for rights to *International Guerrillas* was more than usual as he anticipated demand to be five times higher than normal.

With European and North American rights to 1,600 Pakistani and Indian films, his firm is one of the top four distributing videos from the sub-continent.

Scientist died from rat disease

By DANIEL TREISMAN

A SCIENTIST studying water pollution died from a rare disease caused by contact with rats' urine, an inquest was told yesterday.

Christopher Mills, aged 36, died of Weil's disease in October after complaining of influenza-like symptoms. He was a fish population biologist at the Institute of Freshwater Ecology at Lake Windermere, Cumbria.

A local authority health expert told the inquest in Kendal that the public should avoid paddling in ditches, ponds and slow-moving canals.

About three people die each year in England and Wales from Weil's disease out of a total of about 80 cases. The illness, which can also cause headaches, can be treated with antibiotics.

Dr Mills had visited Duddon estuary near Barrow-in-Furness with his family about a week before his death. "Our daughter Sally went paddling in the river," his widow Anne told the jury. She did not know if her husband had also gone in the water.

Two days later, Dr Mills complained of feeling ill and the following day he came home from work at lunchtime and went to bed. He died in hospital on October 7.

The jury returned an open verdict.

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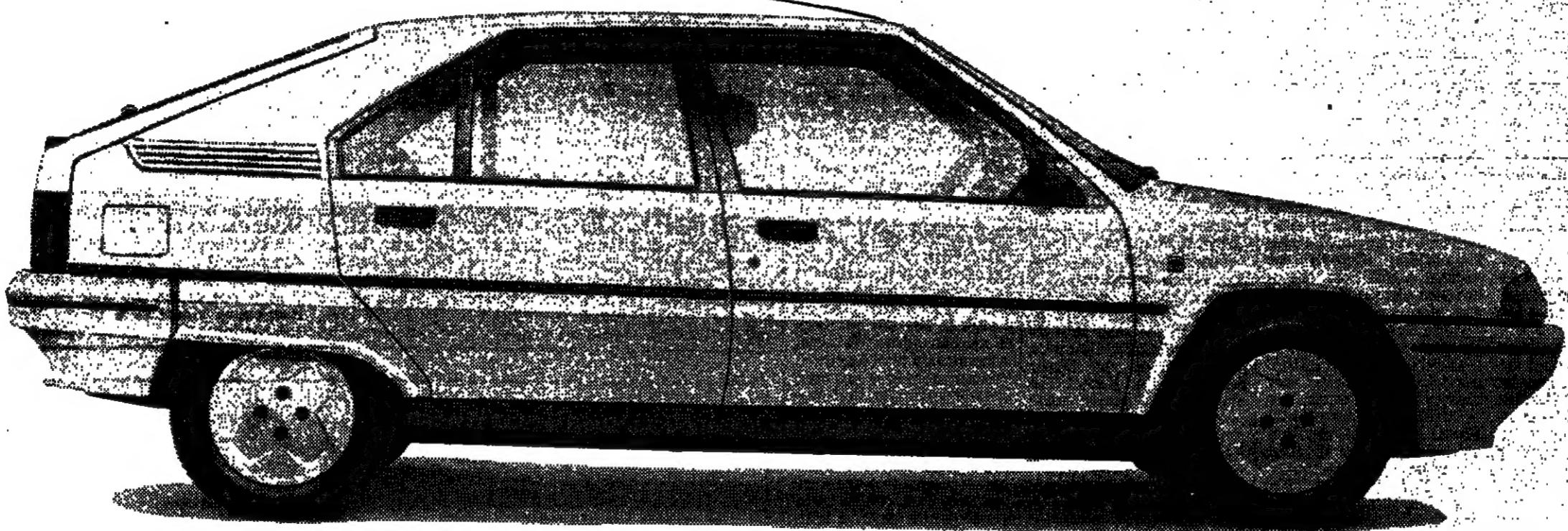
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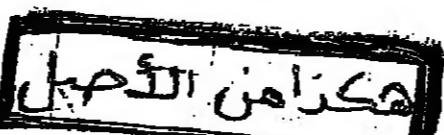
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Yorkshire miners back Scargill in Soviet cash affair

By TIM JONES, LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

THE battle over the future of Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Miners, took a decisive turn yesterday when leaders of the 38 branches in his Yorkshire heartland effectively censured the national executive committee's decision to sue him for the return of £1.4 million of Russian money.

The move came as the four members of the sub-committee charged with unravelling the mystery of the money prepared to fly to Paris to meet Alain Simon, general secretary of the International Miners' Organisation (IMO). M Simon, condemned in the report by Gavin Lightman, QC, into the stewardship of the union, for his refusal to co-

operate, is the only man who knows the full story of the complex deals which led to the funds being deposited in bank accounts in Dublin and Vienna.

Yesterday, after a three-hour meeting of the union's Yorkshire area council, Mr Ken Capstick, an executive member from the Scargill coalfield, said: "When it comes to a political decision one of the things we don't like doing is running to the courts and taking our own officials and members before High Court judges."

The meeting, which represented a gathering of Mr Scargill's staunchest supporters, called for the affair to be resolved by negotiations be-

tween national officials, the IMO and any other third party. It said that ultimately the outcome should be determined by a specially convened national conference.

Mr Capstick said that the two Yorkshire members of the national executive had voted for legal action after being told that if they did not take action to protect NUM funds they could be in breach of trust themselves.

"The funds of the IMO are now frozen. No one can use them. We are in a position to sit down and try and sort the matter out once and for all," Ken Horner, general secretary of the Yorkshire area, said.

"There was a consensus that this problem was one for the union to resolve and that the interest of the members was paramount."

Last night in Paris, an official at the IMO, an organisation described by Mr Lightman as "practically impenetrable", confirmed that the four-man sub-committee would be meeting M Simon today.

It is understood that the committee rejected an invitation to meet M Simon at the IMO headquarters in the Paris suburb and arranged instead a neutral encounter, at a venue near Charles de Gaulle airport. Mr Scargill, president of the IMO, and M Simon maintain that any money received from Soviet miners was donated for international use and not specifically to help British miners during their year-long strike.

Although ageism legislation could not be ruled out, Sir Geoffrey said that it had only limited success in the United States.

Sally Greenross, director of Age Concern, said that British pensioners were treated like children and subject to widespread discrimination in employment, health care and income. "The discrimination which may first be seen in the doctor's surgery may extend into the planning of services which are all too often weighted towards acute care for the younger population," she said.

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Labour onslaught on MacGregor's teacher pay plans

THE government's proposals for teachers' pay negotiating machinery were attacked by the Opposition in the Commons yesterday when they were announced by John MacGregor, the education secretary.

Jack Straw, chief Opposition spokesman on education, described them as a shallow and damaging trick. He said they would not provide an extra penny for education or guarantee one extra teacher in the classroom.

The proposals showed yet again, he said, that education ministers who had so damaged the education service were incapable of improving it. "It is not just failed education ministers who need to be removed but failed and discredited policies which must be abandoned forthwith."

The removal of teachers' negotiating rights in 1986, and

Rail link ready by 1991

The upgrading and extension of the Docklands Light Railway to Bank in the City of London is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Viscount Davidson, government spokesman, told the House of Lords during question time. He said that a second tunnel was likely to be completed next year and the extension to Beckton should be finished within two years.

When planned, the railway had been expected to carry 33,000 passengers a day, but the present figure was 40,000 which showed how successful the regeneration of docklands had been. The new extension was likely to increase the number of passengers to three times that level.

Works of art

Richard Luce, arts minister, told MPs that his department would devote a great deal of attention to the protection of works of art from theft and illicit export. Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, Lib Dem) had urged the creation of a European convention to prevent the disappearance of works of art through loopholes in European and international boundaries.

Drugs list

The selected list scheme under which doctors and pharmacists are required to prescribe generic drugs whenever possible, continues to make a big saving to the National Health Service drugs bill. Virginia Bottomley, minister for health, said in a Commons written reply. Latest figures showed a saving of £75 million, she said.

Water label

David Maclean, parliamentary secretary for agriculture, said in a Commons written reply that he is continuing to press for the labelling of Pesticide water to be adjusted to ensure that consumers are properly informed of the nature of the product.

Home buyers

About 970,000 tenants have bought their homes from English councils and new town authorities in the past 10 years since the right-to-buy legislation came into effect, Michael Spicer, housing and planning minister, said.

Divorce law

The Law Commission's report on reform of the divorce law is expected to be published in the autumn. Sir Patrick Mayhew, Attorney-general, said.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Employment; prime minister. Debate on Opposition motion on the economy. Lords (2.30): Broadcasting bill, committee, fifth day.

English rules at the EC

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

ENGLISH is spoken by more European Community officials and members of the European parliament than any other language, according to a guide to the personalities and institutions of the EC.

An analysis of 1,258 entries in *Dod's European Companion*, published tomorrow, shows that 908 of the parliamentarians and officials speak English. In second place is French, which is spoken by 593 of them. After that come German (394), Italian (275), Spanish (224), Dutch (152), Portuguese (82), Greek (65), and Danish (63).

Other languages spoken include Russian (15) and Catalan (11). Only two of those listed speak Japanese.

Perhaps because of the number from other countries who speak French and English, the English and French representatives in Europe tend to speak fewer languages than those from other EC nations. The 235 Britons in the survey have a grand total of 247 other languages between them. The 192 French have 193. The 187 Germans, however, have 290 other languages and the Dutch come out as the best linguists with their 66 people speaking a total of 125 other languages. Among the nar-

EDUCATION

the continued delay in re-establishing them, had damaged teachers' motivation and self-respect. That was why schools faced greater problems now than at any time in living memory.

Mr MacGregor was retaining some powers. The proposal to allow individual authorities and grant-maintained schools to opt out of national pay machinery would be seen as an attempt by him to appease his critics on the Tory right and a "cheap dodge" to avoid his responsibility for the nationwide teacher shortage. Teacher shortages had risen by half in two years mainly because teachers' pay had dropped so far behind that of comparable groups. Would Mr MacGregor back with cash local authorities that set their own salary scales?

Mr MacGregor rejected all Mr Straw's charges. On his override powers, he would consider all the negotiating body's recommendations on merit. He might also use the powers on matters such as professional duties and the pay structure, and possibly where there was disagreement about the pay of heads and deputy heads.

On opting out, there were some serious teacher shortages, particularly in some London boroughs, and he had adopted a whole range of measures to try to help local authorities to deal with them. He was applying local flexibility, which had been achieved in the past three years or so, and the new proposals for opting out were a natural extension of that process.

It was "rich" for Mr Straw to press for additional resources because Mr Straw had always avoided that question. Cash limits must be one possibility available to the education secretary for any interim advisory committee recommendations.

Responding to James Pawsey (Rugby and Kenilworth, C), who welcomed the proposals, Mr MacGregor said that the government would be legislating for some time to come to provide for the possibility of evolution.

Peter Shore (Bethnal Green and Stepney, Lab) said that the corrupt nature of the distribution of central funding for education had been demonstrated and there was concern that that corrupt system might continue with the new system.

The crisis of morale among teachers was now worse than ever.

Mr MacGregor: "To describe the system as corrupt is ludicrous."

He had found that teachers were getting to grips with the national curriculum and were excited and becoming positive about it.

Derek Fatchett, an Opposition spokesman on education, said that no additional resources were being made available. All that was happening was redeployment of resources from poorer to richer authorities. That would move teachers to the richer authorities because the government did not care about the children of Lambeth and Hackney.

Mr MacGregor said that he had made the point that extra resources went to poorer boroughs because of their additional educational needs.

Rifkind announces woodland grants

GRANTS are to be made available to promote the better management of woodlands, Malcolm Rifkind, Scottish secretary, said in a Commons written reply.

The grants are part of a package of measures arising from a review of the government's policy for broadleaf woodland.

The grants are to be available to the owners of broadleaf and conifer woodland who agree to a management plan with the Forestry Commission aimed at improving the management and increasing the environmental value of woodlands. The amounts will be £10 a hectare for conifers and £25 for broadleaf. Other grants will also be available.

The government's policy was set out in 1985 with the objective of maintaining and enhancing the value of Britain's broadleaf woodland "for timber production, landscape, recreation and nature conservation".

It was stated at the time that

the policy would be reviewed and that was put in hand in October 1988. It became clear that the policy had had considerable success in extending the area of broadleaves throughout the country.

Although many bodies consulted suggested that there should be more grants for broadleaf planting, the government had concluded that no new planting grants were needed.

The review showed, however, that it was necessary to encourage good multi-purpose management and that involved higher costs, particularly for managing ancient semi-natural woodlands.

To qualify for the new grants, woodland owners will be required to agree with the Forestry Commission a five-year plan of operations that will set out the management objectives for the woodland and prescribe operations that will advance those objectives during the period of the plan.

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Kohl seeks extra power from united German election

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

HELMUT Kohl, the West German chancellor, having masterminded German unity, now aims to win an overall majority for his Christian Democrats in the first pan-German elections in December. This would enable him to abandon the liberal compromises to party policy forced by coalition politics, and allow him to dump the country's long-serving foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, with whom he has become increasingly irritated.

Herr Genscher is a member of the tiny Free Democratic party, which has managed to stay in government for all but two years since 1949 by swapping sides between the Christian Democrats (CDU) and the opposition Social Democrats (SPD).

Because of West Germany's proportional electoral system, neither of the main parties has been able to command an

overall majority, and has always needed to form a coalition with the Free Democrats to form a government. Herr Genscher has thus been a cabinet member since 1969, and foreign minister for the past 16 years. This has given the country continuity of foreign policy, but Herr Genscher has developed a seniority and independence which close sources say Herr Kohl suspects and resents.

After his successful trip to the Soviet Union last week, when he persuaded President Gorbachev to accept full sovereignty for a united Germany, the chancellor is riding high. The mass circulation daily *Welt* has made him an heroic figure, starting a series confirming the present Polish border. Herr Kohl gave way on this issue, but later repudiated what he saw as his foreign minister's too-ready acceptance of limited sovereignty for a united Germany.

Since the question of rela-

Berlin discord over anthem

From ANNE McELVOY IN EAST BERLIN

WHEN the East German athletics squad mounted the rostrum at Gateshead stadium last month on their last trip as a national team to Britain, they enjoyed a freedom banned since the 1950s: they sang the words of their national anthem.

But the stirring Hans Eisler tune *Aufstand aus Ruinen* (Arisen from Ruins), with lyrics by Johannes R. Becher, the poet and first culture minister, looks like disappearing forever when the joint German parliament meets — for the first time after the December elections — to vote on a new anthem, a new name for the country and a new national holiday.

The East German anthem has been played but not sung since the 1950s, because of the Jine *Deutschland einig Vaterland* (Germany one Fatherland). The words disappeared after the failure of Stalin's attempt to unify Germany under guarantees of neutrality. They no longer suited the then Ulbricht government's policy of distancing East Germany from West Germany.

More haunting and wistful than the West German anthem, East Germany's is one of the few accoutrements of the former communist state that many people here would like to retain. It was reintroduced after the fall of the Honecker regime with the Communist party newspaper *Neues Deutschland* printing the words for East Germans to commit to memory again. It is still sung every night on TV when transmission ends.

Lothar de Maiziere, the prime minister, has said its promise "that the sun bright as never before shall shine over Germany" is particularly

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Summit smiles: Mr Singh and Mr Gorbachev after signing a co-operation agreement

Iran allows diplomat to see Cooper

IRAN has allowed a diplomat to see Roger Cooper, the British businessman imprisoned in Tehran in 1985, for the first time in ten months (Andrew McEwen writes). He was visited in Evin prison by a Swedish official representing Britain, which does not have diplomatic relations with Iran.

Mr Cooper, aged 55, a nephew of the poet Robert Graves, was well.

His imprisonment remains one of three obstacles to Anglo-Iranian talks on restoring relations, the others being the *fatwa* against Salman Rushdie and Britain's request for Iran to use its influence over groups holding hostages in Beirut.

Rebels advance into Monrovia

Monrovia — Liberian rebels drove government troops out of their last refuge in the outer suburbs of the Monrovia yesterday and besieged the centre of the capital. Heavy gunfire echoed around the heart of Monrovia's business district. Most shops remained closed.

President Doe has said that he will not leave the capital until the outcome of the war has been decided. (AP)

Soviet hijack attempt foiled

MOSCOW — Security forces foiled an attempt by a student and a bricklayer, both unarmed, to hijack a Soviet airliner to Stockholm yesterday.

The pair threatened to blow up the Tupolev-134 soon after it left Riga for Murmansk but were arrested when the pilot landed near the Finnish border. (Reuters)

feeling the texture, judging the colour and noting in the catalogue their preferred lots. Sable is the Russian fur trade's unique joy: it is produced by no other country. By the end of today, 75,000 sable pelts will have gone under the hammer, worth around £3.5 million. Yesterday was the mink auction, 660,000 skins in all, starting with the dark brown, and proceeding through pastel to grey and white.

Fur is one of the few commodities in which the Soviet Union competes in quality and quantity with any country. An average of 200 traders attend the Leningrad auction, from the United States and Canada, Western Europe and the Far East.

Inside the Palace of Fur the atmosphere is international. The language is English, from the porters to the display hall assistants and in the auction room itself. Even though fur auctions are no longer held in London, everyone in the fur world, in whatever accent, communicates in English.

The fur market is a world market



ALEXANDER Dubcek, Speaker of the Czechoslovak parliament, meeting Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, during his visit to Prague yesterday.

Explaining how the man nicknamed "the bear" because of his shape has now become a world political heavyweight.

His confidence that he can

form the first democratically elected post-war majority German government has been increased by the Wicker Institute's weekly poll, which shows that his fellow countrymen consider him to be the best chancellor since the institute started "marking" national leaders in 1951. Asked what school grade they would award him, the average given by 3,397 West Germans and 1,478 East Germans was 1.7. German school marks range from a top grade of 1 to a bottom grade of 6, with anything under 2 regarded as excellent. Only a year ago the chancellor was rated at 4.2, which is scarcely a pass.

The poll also shows that 58.4 per cent support him as chancellor, more than 5 per cent up in a week, while his SPD rival, Oskar Lafontaine, is trailing with just 31 per cent. This is 6 per cent less than the SPD candidate scored a week earlier and more than 20 per cent down on Herr Lafontaine's rating a month ago, when Herr Kohl was well behind.

The chancellor's commanding lead has not yet totally transferred to his party, although the CDU and its Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union, now has 45.6 per cent compared with 44.2 per cent last week, while the SPD has dropped from 38.4 per cent to 37.5 per cent. The Free Democrats, with 9.6 per cent, still hold the balance of power, but are increasingly worried that the chancellor is seeking to exploit his popularity in East Germany to take an overall majority in the first pan-German polls on December 2.

This fear led Count Otto Lambdorff, the Free Democratic leader, to accuse Herr Kohl of dictating tactics to the CDU in the East, because it wants reunification to take place after the election, giving a better chance to small right-wing parties in the East, which would probably fail to muster the 5 per cent of votes needed to win seats under the West German electoral system, which would be used after unification.

The second programme, which showed the gaunt silhouette of "Agent Zero", alleged that P2 was not wound up in the mid-1980s after the arrest of its leader, Licio Gelli. "It still exists," it calls itself P7," he said. According to the agent, the lodge is still functioning with branches in Austria, Switzerland and West Germany.

stability for the continent (Krester reports from Prague). "Events are moving forward ... in the general direction that Czechoslovakia and Britain have favoured in recent months," he said after talks with President Vaclav Havel and other Czechoslovak leaders. "The new

Germany will be embedded in the heart of Europe as a member of the European Community, of Nato, of the Council of Europe and as one of the most important members of the new system of the CSCE (Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe)."

Cossiga demands inquiry into Palme murder 'P2-CIA link'

From RICHARD BASSETT IN ROME

PRESIDENT Cossiga has ordered the Italian government to investigate the allegation that the CIA and the infamous P2 masonic lodge conspired to assassinate Olof Palme, the former Swedish prime minister.

In a letter dated July 3, Signor Cossiga expressed his "grave disquiet" over the allegations which appeared in a series of Italian television interviews with supposedly former members of the CIA. The interviews claimed that P2 had co-operated with the CIA in arranging Mr Palme's death, and in organising terrorism on Italian soil in the 1970s. If these allegations are true, then a full legal investigation must follow," the president said in a letter to his fellow Christian Democrat, Giulio Andreotti, the prime minister.

"Zero One" has now been acquited at last week's Bologna bombing appeal court trial, the latest allegations have only one answer. He is suing Italian television for £5 million damages.

The so-called "Ustica" affair took place in 1980 when a DC9 appeared to be intercepted by a missile not far from the military base on the Italian island of Ustica.

All the passengers and crew were killed. Exhaustive searches failed to reveal any clue to the cause of the crash. The incident, which has never been satisfactorily explained, was alleged at the time to have been the result of a bungled attempt to shoot down a plane flying nearby the same day

St-Tropez orders cover-up

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

PRUDISHNESS and the beaches of St-Tropez will be inextricably linked in many minds, what with recollections of the prime of Brigitte Bardot and bikinis that would fit into a matchbox with room to spare. But the French can be funny about matters of morality, sometimes behaving even more perplexingly than the British, and the mayor of the Côte d'Azur's most glitzy resort has strong feelings about full-frontal nudity in public places.

The four television interviews, which took place between June 28 and July 2, raised "grave issues of credibility", the president said.

In the first programme, someone described simply as "Agent Zero" described how Palme had been caught in a deal between the CIA and Iran to release American hostages in Tehran. "Palme was a fly in the ointment so we got P2 to rub him out," the agent said.

The second programme, which showed the gaunt silhouette of "Agent Zero", alleged that P2 was not wound up in the mid-1980s after the arrest of its leader, Licio Gelli. "It still exists," it calls itself P7," he said. According to the agent, the lodge is still functioning with branches in Austria, Switzerland and West Germany.

So recent, in fact, that Alain Spada has decided to chase nudists from all municipal beaches for reasons of "security, hygiene, respect for public standards and the liberty of others". On his orders, the police were out in force last weekend, scanning the sands for glimpses of forbidden flesh, notebooks at the

city living legend's villa-cum-animal sanctuary, St-Tropez clearly represents Sodom-sur-mer, and she does not hide her affairs from the local authorities are responsible.

The last time she spoke out, however, M Spada was ready and waiting. "It's true that St-Tropez is dying, but who was responsible for bringing vice and immorality here in the first place?" Still, one senses that the mayor's troubles with nudity are only just beginning.

A few dozen protesters have already invited prosecution by shedding all in the noble cause of Sunday, and plans for "commando actions" during the peak holiday period are being considered.

"If St-Tropez bans us, I'll be off to a shot to Ramatuelle just down the road," one indignant and naked holiday-maker declared.

Mr Miller argued that it was misleading to see Polubotok as a nationalist, because people living in Ukraine at the time were divided along religious and tribal lines. Ukraine meant borderlands, and it did not gain a sense of national identity until the late 19th century.

Ukraine enjoyed only two years of independence after the first world war before being absorbed into the Soviet Union. Nationalist feelings re-emerged about three years ago when the banned yellow and blue national flag was waved at rallies. After moves towards independence by the Baltic states, the Ukrainian parliament asserted its sovereignty but has been more cautious than Lithuania. The gold legend was revived by one of the 25 candidates standing in presidential elections next week.

Singh bolsters Moscow ties

From A CORRESPONDENT IN MOSCOW

THE Indian prime minister, Vishwanath Pratap Singh, arrived in Moscow yesterday for the first Indian-Soviet summit of the Gorbachev reform era.

India is one of Moscow's closest and most powerful partners in the non-aligned bloc, while the Soviet Union is India's second biggest trading partner after the United States and its largest arms supplier.

Yesterday, Mr Singh and Mr Gorbachev signed a joint declaration committing their two countries to building a nuclear-free and non-violent world. During his visit to the Soviet Union in 1985, Rajiv Gandhi, Mr Singh's predecessor, signed agreements on a

one-billion rouble (£880 million) credit package, a 15-year scientific agreement, and a military co-operation agreement that allowed India to build advanced Soviet MiG-29 fighter planes under licence.

Delhi backed Moscow's policies in key arms issues during the 1980s and refrained from any serious criticism of the Kremlin over its nine-year intervention in Afghanistan.

The Soviet Union is eager to dispel any impression that recent events in Eastern Europe and closer links with the United States have distracted it from relations with its Asian partner. The official

press here has given wide coverage to the visit, quoting Mr Singh as describing Mr Gorbachev as a "wise and perceptive" man.

However, Western diplomats do not expect the same scale of agreements as those which marked Mr Gandhi's visit, two months after Mr Gorbachev assumed leadership of the Communist party. The Soviet leader has made it clear that Moscow, with its own economic problems, has little money for developing countries.

Indian officials are eager to seize openings as President Gorbachev introduces market reforms.

Mr Stepanov said that as a result of the changes standards dropped, the consistency of grading which had distinguished the Soviet fur trade was reduced, and buyers complained. Soviet furs are back in the care of a central Soviet export agency. But if the Russian Federation, which is the country's main source of furs, gains the degree of economic autonomy it wants, the trade could once again be conducted mainly on a regional basis as it was before state-sponsored exports of furs began in 1931.

Before the revolution, much Russian fur was traded at the famous market at Nizhni Novgorod on the Volga, which is now Gorky. The city has stated its intention to revert to its former name and revive the market as an annual world trade fair that would rival Hamburg or Leipzig. If it succeeds, the fur traders of the future may find themselves pursuing their distant predecessors to the Volga and this summer's Leningrad auction could be one of the last.

Blank at bank on Ukraine treasure

By ANDREW McEWEN

DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE mystery of a barrel of gold supposedly deposited with the Bank of England 267 years ago by a Ukrainian military leader deepened yesterday when officials searched the vaults and found only dust and cobwebs.

The search followed demands by deputies in the Ukrainian parliament that Kiev should reclaim the gold with up to £16,000 billion in interest, a figure which prompted raised eyebrows at the bank.

A check of items left on deposit also drew a blank. Had it succeeded, the bank would have charged the Ukraine for 267 years of storage fees but would have paid no interest on the ground that bullion is not the same as money left in an interest-bearing account.

In 1723, when the gold would have been deposited, the bank was a chartered corporation with private shareholders. It did not become a state institution until 1946. But its records go back 294 years, and a full search is to be made to establish whether there was ever such a deposit. The files are not as dusty as might be supposed, because the bank regularly receives letters from people claiming that ancestors left money there. "Most of them are from Americans, and once in a while they turn out to be right," said an official.

Generations of people of Ukrainian descent living in Britain have been brought up to believe that Colonel Pavel Polubotok, an 18th-century "hetman" (military leader), left a hoard in the bank's care before travelling to St Petersburg to deliver a petition to Tsar Peter the Great. He asked the tsar to restore the greater autonomy Ukraine had previously enjoyed, but the tsar suspected that his petition did not accurately reflect local wishes. Polubotok died in prison in 1723, historians disagree on whether he should be seen as a Ukrainian patriot or merely a military chief. Michael Hrushevsky, in his *History of Ukraine*, described him as "a man of great energy and lofty patriotism", but did not mention the gold.

George Miller, chairman of the Association for a Free Russia, was sceptical. "A lot of these myths come from the West rather than the Ukraine, and have now been transferred back to the Ukraine," he said. Fedir Kurlak, general secretary of the Ukrainian Association in Britain, which has 15,000 members, tried yesterday to trace the origin of the gold. "Everyone seems to regard it as common knowledge, but no one can remember how they knew it," he said. "It's rather like the Robin Hood legend."

One elderly Ukrainian said he had heard that the gold was not deposited with the bank by Polubotok himself, but handed to a British officer, who was to pass it on. Apart from the gold there was also jewellery, he said.

Mr Miller argued that it was misleading to see Polubotok as a nationalist, because people living in Ukraine at the time were divided along religious and tribal lines. Ukraine meant borderlands, and it did not gain a sense of national identity until the late 19th century.

Ukraine enjoyed only two years of independence after the first world war before being absorbed into the Soviet Union. Nationalist feelings re-emerged about three years ago when the banned yellow and blue national flag was waved at rallies. After moves towards independence by the Baltic states, the Ukrainian parliament asserted its sovereignty but has been more cautious than Lithuania. The gold legend was revived by one of the 25 candidates standing in presidential elections next week.

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Arab world steps up efforts to end Iraq-Kuwait row

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

KING Husain of Jordan arrived in Egypt yesterday for urgent talks with President Mubarak and Tariq Aziz, Iraq's foreign minister, in an attempt to play down the severity of the oil and land dispute between Iraq and Kuwait.

The diplomatic drive aimed to prevent the war of words in the Gulf spilling over into armed conflict and to smooth the path to Thursday's meeting in Geneva of Opec, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. But it was undermined by a broadside in Iraq's official press designed to discredit Kuwait's foreign minister, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabah, brother of the Emir.

Iraqi government newspapers accused the Kuwaiti foreign minister of being a United States agent and blamed him for the clash. "Sabah al-Ahmed's malignant hand is behind all the harm inflicted on Iraq and he put himself as a tool to implement the American policy in Kuwait, including the sabotage of the Iran-Kuwait relations," alleged the Baghdad daily *Al-Jumhuriya*. "Today he is the

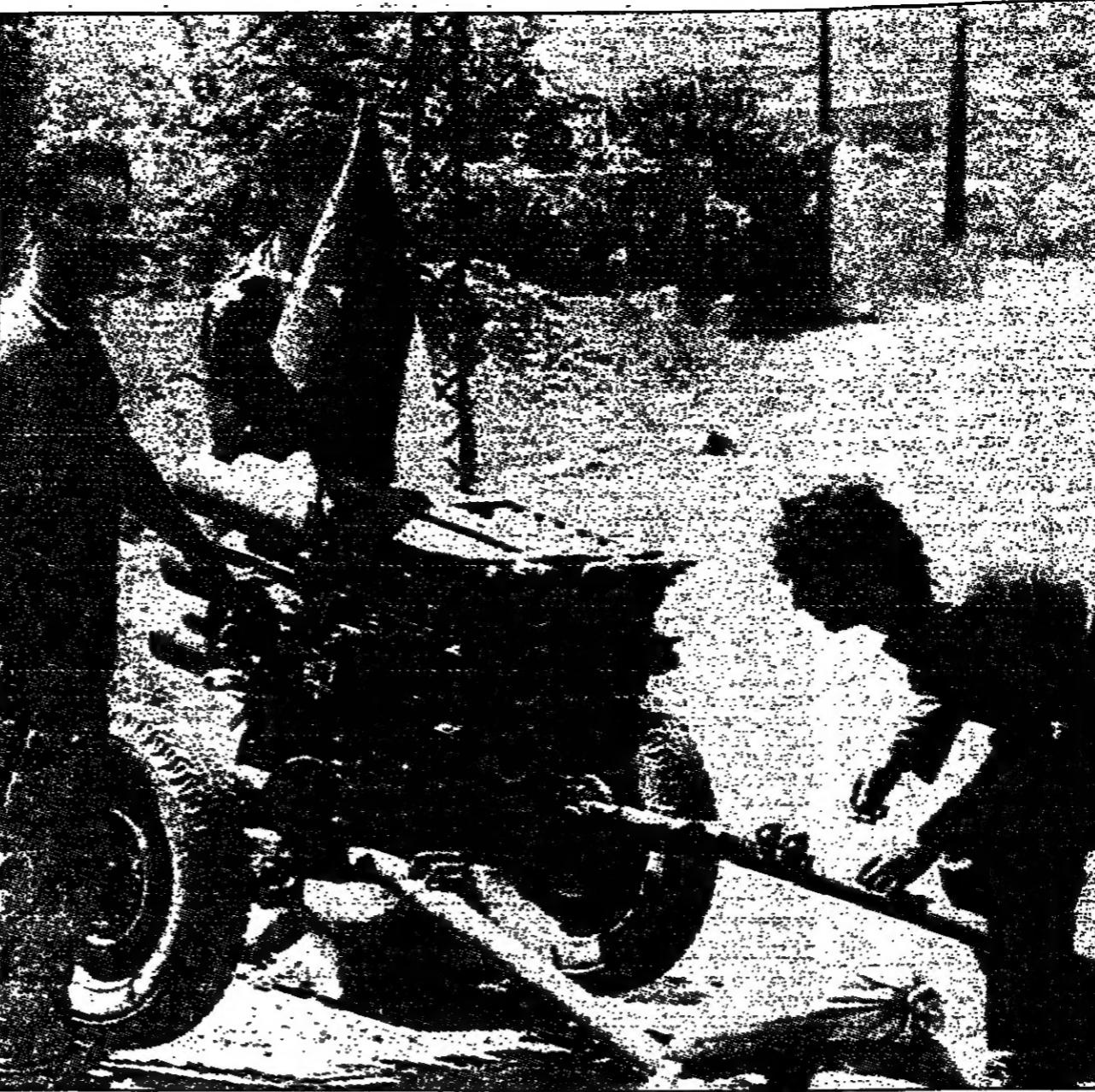
pivot of the conspiracy hatched by the Kuwait government against the Iraq and Arab nation."

The criticism of the sheikh, who is also deputy prime minister of the tiny oil-rich state, was the first personalised attack in a week of fierce Iraqi accusations against its neighbour over its excess oil production.

Iraq and Kuwait also traded accusations on theft of oil reserves, economic sabotage and occupation of each other's territory in the latest revival of a border dispute which stretches back four decades and has twice brought the countries close to war since Kuwait won independence from Britain in 1961.

An Economist Intelligence Unit report two weeks ago said: "The Iraqi leadership is determined to improve its geopolitical position through better access to waters of the Gulf, and Kuwait is the only area through which this can be achieved."

The complexity of the differences over oil in the 1990s was emphasised when Iraq received some support for its stand over production quotas from two semi-official papers in Iran which praised the Iraqi stand and said that it was shared by all other Opec members.



Talks fail to halt Shia battles

PALESTINIAN guerrillas manning a multi-rocket launcher in the village of Sarba yesterday as rival Shia militias battled in south Lebanon for the eighth consecutive day, despite Iranian efforts to halt the fighting that has killed 112 people.

The Syrian-backed Amal and pro-Iranian Hezbollah pounded each other's positions with heavy artillery and rockets, according to security sources (Reuters reports). The bombardments hit at least 16 villages but concentrated on Jarjouh, captured by Hezbollah on July 16. Amal and other pro-Syrian Lebanese groups, backed by Palestine Liberation Organisation fighters, have failed to retake the village.

An Iranian embassy delegation, led by Gholamreza Valizadeh, continued talks with militia officials in Sidon to try to end the battles in the nearby Jolim al-Tounieh district, 25 miles south of Beirut. He said he was trying to implement a pact signed by Hezbollah and Amal under the sponsorship of Damascus and Tehran 18 months ago. The "Damascus accord" was never carried out because the warring factions had different interpretations of its articles.

Zulu-ANC clash claims 24 lives

From RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

AT LEAST 24 people have been killed in pitched battles between supporters of the Zulu Inkatha movement and the African National Congress in townships to the south of Johannesburg.

News of the carnage emerged yesterday as conflicting accounts appeared of government-inspired reports of swoops on ANC hardliners claimed to be plotting armed insurrection.

Most of the killing occurred in Sebokeng township in the so-called Vaal triangle, 30 miles south of Johannesburg. There, next door to Sharpeville township, where 69 people were killed by police at a demonstration in 1960, at least 11 were killed by police gunfire in March. This almost led to the cancellation of talks between the South African government and the ANC, which eventually took place in early May.

The weekend violence in Sebokeng came after an agreement last Friday between Nelson Mandela and President F. W. de Klerk that the next full round of negotiations between the government and the ANC would be held in Pretoria from August 6.

Police yesterday denied they had sided with Inkatha in the fighting in Sebokeng, which erupted after a rally sponsored by the Zulu movement in the township soccer stadium. One of the victims was a police warrant officer who was killed with an *assegai*, the traditional Zulu short stabbing spear.

Neil Coleman, a spokesman for the Council of South African Trade Unions, an ANC affiliate, said yesterday that police had promised they would not allow armed people to attend the Inkatha rally.

"But the Zulu *impis* (fighting units) were armed to the teeth," he said. "They had a whole range of weapons, including guns." He claimed they had arrived at the rally in buses and minibus taxis, escorted by "mainly white police in about 18 vehicles and two Casspirs (armoured personnel carriers)".

More than 3,000 people have been killed in the four years of warfare between Inkatha, led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the chief minister of the KwaZulu homeland, and supporters of the ANC.

The spilling over of the violence to Sebokeng township, which is in the South African industrial heartland based around Johannesburg, is the first serious indication that the battle for black political domination might spread. Just over a week ago Chief Buthelezi, relaunched Inkatha, until now identified as a mainly Zulu cultural movement, as a multi-racial political party in direct opposition to the ANC.

Meanwhile, the government's state security council, headed by President de Klerk, met yesterday. It is believed that high on the agenda were the arrests of ANC members who, according to the weekend reports, were plotting insurrection to disrupt the peace talks between the organisation and the government.

At the same time, in a South Africa enveloped by suspicion, the ANC executive began a two-day meeting at a secret venue near Johannesburg to plan its strategy for the talks.

Leadership split: Twenty-two per cent of South African

Spain pulls out Havana ambassador

Madrid — Spain recalled its ambassador from Cuba yesterday as it wrestled with whether to break off relations with the communist state over the problem of 18 Cubans seeking refuge in its embassy in Havana (Juan Carlos Guimaraes writes).

Spain suspects that at least nine of the refugees are agents provocateurs, infiltrated into the embassy to thwart the attempts of the genuine dissidents to escape. Cuba has thrown a cordon around the embassy, and has accused Spain of meddling in its internal affairs by giving sanctuary to dissidents.

Nepal epidemic Kathmandu — A diarrhoea-dysentery epidemic has claimed 236 lives in the past month, according to Nepalese government statistics. The epidemic, affecting 18 of the country's 75 districts, has been blamed on unhygienic food and drinking water and poor waste disposal.

Train derailed Toulon — Vandals derailed a high-speed TGV train with 368 passengers aboard. No one was injured. Police said that the incident on Sunday was unconnected to protests against plans to expand the high-speed rail network into the Provence region. (AP)

Football riot Dhaka — Rioting fans left at least 50 people injured in the southern port city of Chittagong. The violence erupted after a referee dismissed a penalty appeal by Abahani club four minutes before the final whistle with a game against the Chittagong Comets at level 1-1. (AP)

Drug action Madrid — British and Spanish officials discussed joint action against drug smuggling around Gibraltar. Spain alleges the British colony is a centre for drug smuggling and for laundering its proceeds — charges which local officials deny. (Reuters)

Reprise hope Auckland — The government is to consider clearing the name of a Maori chief hanged 133 years ago for the murder of a missionary. The *New Zealand Herald* reported: "Farewell, you Pakehas (whites), I die without a crime." (AP)

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Seoul opposition resigns in push for early election

From SIMON WARNER IN SEOUL

THE entire South Korean opposition resigned from parliament yesterday in an attempt to force general elections two years early and topple the government.

The move prompted a spokesman for the ruling Democratic Liberal Party to warn that a scared public feared "violent revolution". While such predictions seem to have no basis, the tactics of the 80 opposition members in the 299-member national assembly could plunge South Korean politics into fresh difficulties.

The resignations were handed in to Park Chun Kyu, the assembly speaker. Such a move has happened in South Korea twice before, in 1965 and 1979, according to local newspapers. The ruling party said the resignations would be

returned by Mr Park, a member of the party headed by President Roh.

The opposition legislators, determined to get their point across, cleared out their desks and began vacating their offices. But under South Korean law the speaker can sit on the resignations until the next session of parliament in September and then have them voted on.

The Party for Peace and Democracy, led by Kim Dae Jung, which has 70 legislators, and its new ally, the splinter Democratic Party with eight, said salaries would no longer be accepted and they were effectively out of parliament whatever the speaker decides. They are attempting to form a united opposition front from a dissident group and could set up a new party by September.

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The resignations have come as the government is trying to persuade the North Korean government to open the border for five days, from August 13, for unrestricted two-way travel.

In a press conference, the government announced it was accepting virtually all the conditions set by the North when it rejected the South's initial offer last Friday.

Seoul called for negotiations this Friday to discuss an inspection of structures that Pyongyang says block free travel between the two sides.

The South also said it would allow citizens to attend a rally on August 15 which is being organised by the North on its side of the truce village of Panmunjom, to mark the 45th anniversary of Korean liberation from Japanese colonial rule.

A march, sponsored by the Communists, from a mountain in the extreme north of Korea to another mountain on the capitalist South's southern-most island would also be allowed to go ahead, the government said.

At a meeting of the military armistice commission in Panmunjom, North Korea asked that all military personnel and equipment be removed from the truce village before the unification rally.

The South Korean government also said it was willing to discuss the National Security Law, which bans contact with the North and describes it as an enemy state.

With each side distrustful of the other, even these apparently generous offers are unlikely to be taken at face value. The South is asking for a quid pro quo that the North may find unacceptable.

Seoul wants negotiations to include the North's laws, it wants Pyongyang to open its rally to South Korean non-dissident participants and it wants to inspect military facilities in the northern half of the demilitarized zone.

So while there is much wishful thinking here, there appear few grounds for optimism that the border will be opened to allow free travel soon. The opposition parties accuse the government of using the issue to divert attention from their demands.

But in the South-North battle for propaganda points these events could accidentally yield big advantages.



Villagers at Nueva Visca, in the northern Philippines, cut off by a landslide after last week's earthquake, scrabbling for relief goods brought in by helicopter. Aid has been pouring into Manila since the earthquake, but survivors in the north complain that food is not

getting through quickly enough (Reuters and AP report). "We need food, SOS," pleaded a message painted on a basketball court in the badly damaged village of Juba, near the mountain resort of Baguio, which was ravaged by the earthquake last Monday. In Baguio and surrounding areas, survivors are reported to be still going hungry. Baguio residents said they had to wait for days and sign numerous forms to claim supplies.

In a state-of-the-nation address yesterday, President Aquino called for \$500,000 (£275,000) emergency aid to earthquake victims, and unity in the dispute over US bases in the Philippines. But her congressional audience responded with silence, which commentators said showed that the executive and legislative branches had become estranged.

Ports may close to boat people

By ANDREW MC EWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

SIX Asian nations will decide in the next two days whether to carry out a threat to stop Vietnamese boat people landing at their ports.

Foreign minister of the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean) meet in Jakarta today and tomorrow for talks on the boat people, Cambodia and other issues. They warned in May they would take unspecified measures if there were no international agreement by July to allow countries hosting boat people to send some back to Vietnam. The six — Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand — have indicated through diplomatic channels that they are exasperated with the United States and, to a lesser extent, Vietnam, which have been blocking an agreement.

Britain and the association's member nations made a joint diplomatic approach to Washington, while Thorvald Stoltenberg, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, tried to persuade President Bush to stand aside and allow the other 28 nations concerned to go ahead. Both moves failed. Britain and Asean also approached Vietnam, but it is thought Hanoi

will not drop its objections unless Washington does first.

Francis Maude, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said it was possible that the Asian ministers would end the principle of "first asylum", which allows boat people to enter their countries temporarily pending resettlement elsewhere. "We would certainly urge them not to do that, but we have got to recognise that they are under great pressure."

The 29-nation International Conference on Indochna agreed last year on a "comprehensive plan of action" which preserved the principle of first asylum. It also said that boat people should be screened to distinguish between refugees and economic migrants, the backlog of genuine refugees should be resettled, and the migrants repatriated. Mandatory repatriation was to be used only if voluntary methods failed.

The British and Hong Kong governments always argued that voluntary methods alone would not work. This was accepted in January by all the countries, except America and Vietnam. "All four (elements) are necessary if the plan is to work," Mr Maude said.

Even so, in military and political circles in Pakistan, there is still no expectation of imminent conflict. Indeed, soldiers deployed on the border have not had their annual leave cancelled. A senior officer said the most dangerous time would be September to December, when cooler weather would provide "perfect" fighting conditions.

Muztaz Rathore, the new prime minister of the semi-autonomous region of Azad Kashmir, said tensions remained high. He received daily reports of four or five Pakistani civilians being killed by Indian soldiers firing across the line of control.

Mr Rathore, who belongs to the Pakistan People's Party of Benazir Bhutto, the prime minister, is a Bhutto loyalist who spent two and a half years in prison during the Zia regime. It is now his job to keep the border region calm.

"India is looking for an excuse to start a war, and we don't intend to give it to them," he said. "Benazir Bhutto will not allow me to give any sort of material support to the internal uprising in Kashmir. There are no training camps here, only refugee camps."

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Indian border force masses as Kashmir 'war season' looms

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN MUZAFFARABAD, KASHMIR

PAKISTAN-controlled Kashmir is monitoring huge troop deployments by India along the rugged border region, heightening a sense of foreboding as the "war season" of autumn and early winter looms.

The mood here is sombre and apprehensive as people talk about the possibility of war, a far cry from five months ago when this grubby provincial capital of "Azad" Kashmir celebrated the prospect of a battle with India with fireworks and parades. It has clearly been intimidated into silence.

Pakistani military analysts in Islamabad estimate that India has 150,000 soldiers and 50,000-strong paramilitary forces on the border. Senior army officers say Pakistan has 100,000 men plus some paramilitary forces on its side. They estimate that India has a total security force throughout Kashmir of 350,000 men.

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"India is looking for an excuse to start a war, and we don't intend to give it to them," he said. "Benazir Bhutto will not allow me to give any sort of material support to the internal uprising in Kashmir. There are no training camps here, only refugee camps."

Nevertheless, he believes

the uprising is justified. "This is a decade of freedom. People are being liberated and India cannot keep people in subjugation any longer. We pray for the success of the freedom fighters," he said.

Local elections in Azad Kashmir in May demonstrated that a once-active movement to break away from Pakistan and strive for an independent, reunited Kashmir has all but collapsed. The overwhelming view now is simply that Indian Kashmir belongs to Pakistan. Nevertheless, Amanullah Khan, leader of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, the biggest of about 70 guerrilla groups operating in the Kashmir region, continues to advocate independence for a united Kashmir.

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The front is torn by internal

Toll rises in battle against Tamils

From A CORRESPONDENT IN COLOMBO

NINE Sri Lankan soldiers were killed and 35 injured when troops clashed with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam at Paraothai in the north of the country on Sunday night. Eighteen Tamil Tigers were also killed, security sources said. The injured soldiers have been flown to Colombo.

The government yesterday imposed a curfew in the administrative district of Killinochchi, 205 miles north of Colombo, including Paranthan and Elephant Pass. The government warned people to remain indoors and said that any movement by them would be considered as terrorist activity.

In another incident on Sunday, in the eastern Batticaloa district, Sri Lankan security forces killed at least 72 Tiger rebels in separate incidents at Kalawachikudi, Mundur, Kokadicholai and Vellavali. The government said that flushing-out operations were still underway in areas of the district.

In northern Vavuniya, one soldier was killed when a detachment in the outskirts of Vavuniya town was fired on by the Tigers. At Silvathurai in the northern Mannar district, fierce battles between Sri Lankan forces and the Tigers left at least 39 people dead, including seven soldiers, on Saturday night.

A Sri Lankan parliamentary delegation, led by the Speaker, which visited India to brief Indian leaders on the war between the government and the Tamil Tigers, was told that India would not interfere in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka. But concern was expressed over the growing number of Tamil refugees and suffering of civilians in the Northern and Eastern provinces, and the possible involvement of a third country in Sri Lanka's internal racial conflict.

The delegation will also visit Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Maldives.

• **Tamils resign:** Eleven Tamil members of the Sri Lankan parliament resigned yesterday in protest at an army offensive against Tamil guerrillas. A spokesman for the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students, the second largest parliamentary opposition group, said its 11 legislators had repeatedly asked the government to stop the offensive against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam because civilians were being killed.

More than 1,500 people, including civilians, have died in fighting between security forces and the Tigers since June 11. Refugees fleeing the fighting now herd cattle and goats ahead of them so that the animals will trigger landmines.

Two civilians were killed and five injured in a landmine explosion as 3,000 people trekked through jungle to escape fighting on the border between northwestern Mannar and Puttalam districts, said I. M. Illyas, a doctor in Puttalam.

Dr Illyas, a member of the northwest provincial council who leads a medical team trying to help the refugees, said by telephone that more than 20 head of cattle and 10 goats were also killed by landmines.

Military sources said that the Tigers had planted hundreds of home-made mines on roads and jungle paths to stop government soldiers from advancing on their hideouts. (Reuters)

Maude faces hard line from Peking

From JONATHAN BRAUDE IN HONG KONG

FRANCIS MAUDE, the foreign office minister, does not expect to find dramatic improvements in Peking's attitude to Hong Kong when he flies into the Chinese capital this afternoon as the first European minister to visit since the violent military suppression of the democracy movement last summer.

On his arrival in Hong Kong last night, Mr Maude said he "would not expect any immediate dramatic results" from his talks with Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, and senior staff from the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office. High on the agenda for discussion will be the offer of full British citizenship for 50,000 leading Hong Kong people and their families, and the territory's proposed bill of rights. The Chinese have angrily opposed both moves.

China has attacked the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill, fearing it would help extend British influence in the territory long after it reverts to Chinese rule in 1997. Peking also says the offer of passports to an élite will be socially divisive and do nothing to calm fears of the millions who do not qualify.

Mr Maude has presented his visit as a mission to explain and reassure the Chinese that the purpose of these policies is to bolster confidence, stability and prosperity in Hong Kong. He said that the Tiananmen Square massacre had not been forgotten, but with only seven years to go before the handover to China, Hong Kong's problems were too important to ignore.

However, few expect China to pass up the opportunity of rebuking Britain, and the success of the visit will be judged on how mild the rebuke.

Mr Maude is expected to raise the question of Hong Kong's proposed £10 billion port and airport development, which has so far not attracted Chinese support.

The visit will also provide the opportunity for serious discussions on Cambodia, with China still supporting the Khmer Rouge despite last week's US decision to drop its backing for the anti-government forces and open talks with the Cambodian government's Vietnamese backers.



Activists of the Rashtriya Mukti Morcha party about to burn an effigy of Rajiv Gandhi for opposing an Amnesty International visit to Punjab and Kashmir

Leading article, page 13

Gandhi attack on Pakistan talks

From COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI

RAJIV Gandhi, the Indian opposition leader, yesterday charged that the coalition government of Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the prime minister, had dispatched the foreign secretary to Pakistan for talks because of pressure from the United States.

Mr Gandhi, who was addressing the convention of the Congress (I) party, of which he is president, accused Mr Singh of going back on his commitment that he would not hold talks with Pakistan until it stopped aiding extremists in Kashmir. Despite new evidence of Pakistan's involvement in the secessionist activity in Kashmir, Mr Singh had reversed his policy, Mr Gandhi said.

The former prime minister said that killings in the border states of Kashmir and Punjab had accelerated since his Congress government stepped down last November.

Yesterday, on the second day of the three-day national convention of the Congress, the largest party in parliament, some far-reaching

amendments to its constitution were passed. These are seen as a first step towards calling organisational elections in the Congress for the first time in 18 years.

Heartened by increasing factionalism within the ruling Janata Dal party, the Congress has stepped up its efforts to try to seize power again in case of a snap mid-term election. Mr Gandhi, who feels that the defeat last December was due largely to slackness in the Congress organisation, has been touring the countryside in an attempt to strengthen the party at grass-roots level.

A resolution passed by the Congress yesterday criticised the government for not living up to its electoral promise that it would disclose the names of those who had allegedly received kickbacks from the Swedish arms firm, Bofors, in a \$63 million (£35 million) gun deal with the Indian army. The Janata Dal had claimed during the elections that Mr Gandhi's government had received kickbacks.

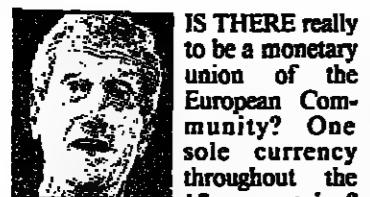
But the authorities are concerned by the number of young people, among them students, who attend his church. "We come here because we cannot find the same depth of teaching at the state-sanctioned church," said one young person attending the service. The state-sanctioned church has conditioned itself to compromise with the Communist party, confining itself to a teaching which fits neatly inside that framework. Being a good Christian

and a good Communist have certain similarities, for instance, and these are exploited to the full. Billy Graham has visited his church and Ronald Reagan sent him a signed photograph, a bible and a pen. Pastor Lin has been delighted by their attention, but in February about 50 policemen, he says, ransacked his house and took away the photograph and the pen, and all the bibles donated by foreigners. He was taken away for 21 hours of interrogation, and cassette tapes recorded with his testimony in English, standard Chinese and Cantonese, which he has distributed throughout China and internationally, were confiscated. Now he and his ten co-workers, who depend on donations from the congregation to make a living, are busy recording tapes and reprinting hymnals.

As a measure of caution, Pastor Lin has told his co-workers that when they go visiting they "should not go fishing" for converts. But fishing is not necessary. The word has already spread from the town alleys to the countryside and more people every week climb the stairs past the government banning notice to Pastor Lin's house church.

Which way ahead to monetary union? Alan Walters, former economic adviser to Mrs Thatcher, believes our interests would best be served by creating an inflation-proof EC currency—not diktat from the Brussels bureaucracy

A new Euromoney that all would buy



IS THERE really to be a monetary union of the European Community? One sole currency throughout the 12 countries?

Will the mark be our standard of account and medium of exchange? Will the Bundesbank rule Europe? Or will Europe cook up its own currency, administered by either Brussels bureaucrats (of the great and the good variety) or some "representative" body of the 12?

The answers to these questions will have profound effects not just on the economics of the Community but on the whole political structure of the Community, greater Europe and the West generally.

Economically, a monetary union is clearly feasible. The easiest and the most plausible arrangement would be for 11 countries simply to fix their currencies irrevocably and precisely to the mark. The pound might be fixed at exactly three marks; but to make this fix credible, the Bank of England must be converted into a simple currency exchange, swapping on demand £1 for three marks. The Bank would have no power to ease or squeeze the money supply, nor any influence over interest rates. These important matters would be the preserve of the Bundesbank. (Indeed, the Bank of England would be just like the currency boards that operated in Britain's colonies before they became independent. Britain would be a monetary colony of Germany.)

Although Bank of England notes would circulate, they would be simply surrogates for marks. The Bundesbank would determine our interest rates and monetary policy. To avoid all this money-changing, it would be but a short step for Britain to adopt the mark

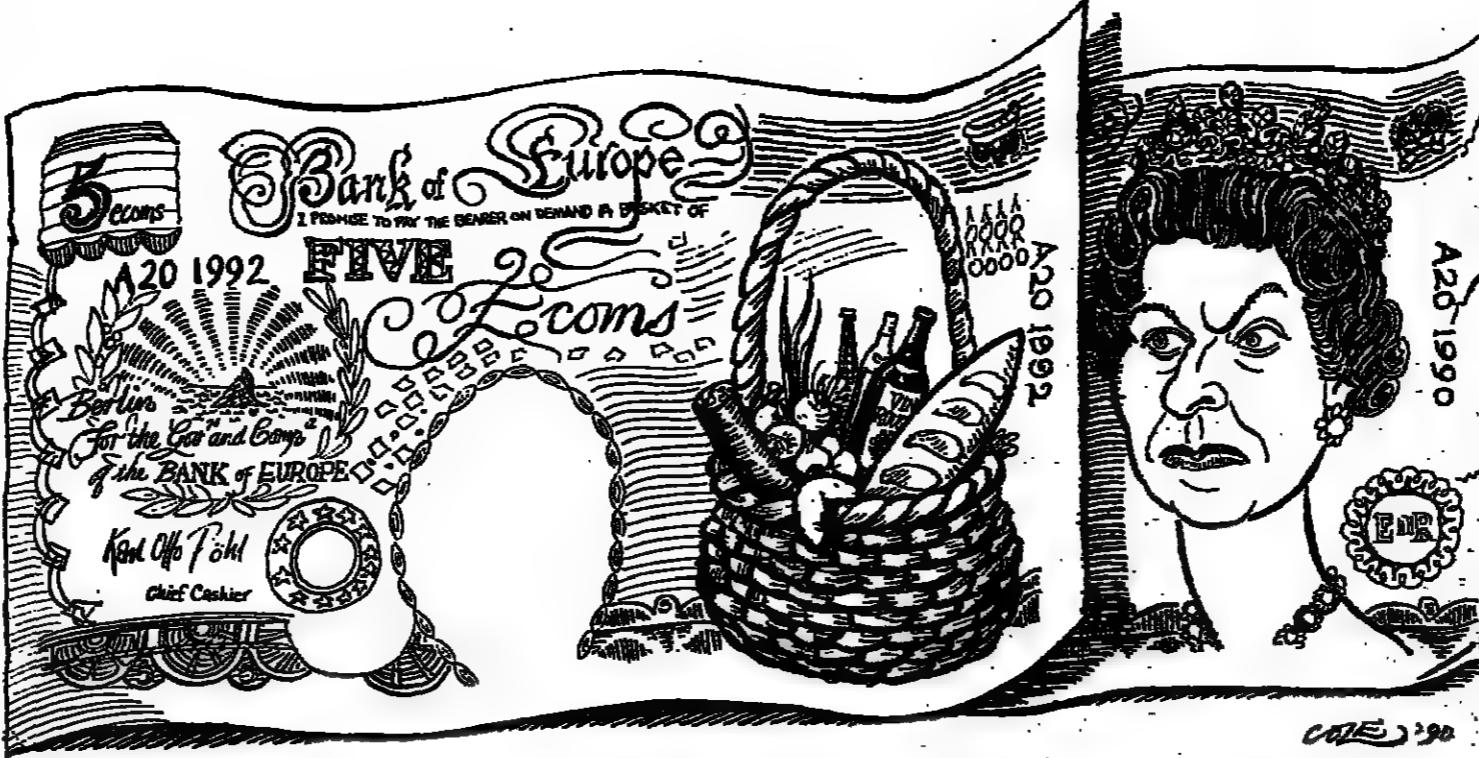
as its own currency—which would be the ultimate monetary union.

In economic terms there is much to be said for this union. Among the 12, the Bundesbank has the best reputation for monetary and price stability, so it would be best for the others to latch on to its credibility and willingly surrender their monetary sovereignty and high rates of inflation for the stability of Germany.

Although I believe that many Germans—perhaps most—would accept this as a sensible and feasible union, it does not play so well in Paris, Rome and London. True, the union enthusiasts want irrevocably fixed exchange rates or a single currency, but they are reluctant to allow monetary sovereignty in Europe to be concentrated in the Bundesbank.

It is said, and I think rightly, that the Bundesbank would conduct monetary policy mainly according to the needs of greater Germany, and this may be inappropriate or even perverse for at least some of the other countries. For example, to finance the increased investment needed in the erstwhile Democratic Republic, Germany may require higher interest rates in the years ahead. But France, with its high unemployment, is unlikely to think such high interest rates consistent with its own objectives. The grumbling which goes on in the present half-baked and much looser EMS, together with occasional outright defiance of the rules, gives an idea of the extreme divergence of views that would attend a tight union.

Inevitably, countries would have different ideas about the appropriate monetary policy for the union. They would not want to leave it to the Bundesbank but would demand a say: what the French have called *symétrie*. Such *symétrie* can be achieved in



various ways, but ultimately all amount to erosion of Bundesbank hegemony. So the dilemma is clear: if the other central banks wanted to exert control over the Bundesbank, the likelihood of responsible policies would be reduced. The Bundesbank's celebrated independence, together with its enviable reputation, would disappear.

The unionists assert that they have an answer. They say there should be a new Community institution: a European system of central banks, a sort of Eurosystem. Somehow, it is argued, this new institution would acquire the gravitas of the Bundesbank while representing the interests of the 12 (and presumably "co-ordinating" policy with Washington and Tokyo).

We are told it would be rather like the Federal Reserve Board in America. But the unionists ignore America's much greater homogeneity and flexibility; nor have they taken on board the horrendous errors characteristic of the Fed's power, such as its monetary squeeze of 1929-33, which caused the Great Depression, or the monetary profligacy which gave rise to the great inflation of the 1970s.

One can understand the reluctance of Britain and Germany, among others, to surrender their monetary control to a nebulous Eurosystem. However, some countries, such as France and Italy, think they will gain more control over the Eurosystem than they have over the Bundesbank (and the

irresistible rise of French bureaucrats in the Community power structure suggests that they may be right).

I doubt whether there can be any agreement on a Eurosystem with a single managed currency for Europe which satisfies the German need for Bundesbank hegemony and the requirement of the other 11 for some effective control of the Eurocurrency. But there is a way out. The Community could set up a new currency, which—unlike the present ecu or the proposed "hard" ecu—is in no way related to existing currencies. This new currency would be constituted so as to be entirely free of inflation or deflation. A unit of the currency—which we can call the "econ"—would always buy

the old colonial boards, would set no policy but would simply respond to people exchanging "ecoms" against the reserve asset. The "econ" would be the epitome of a depoliticised currency.

Furthermore, it could be introduced parallel to the existing currencies at whatever exchange rate was determined by the market or by the operations of ERM interventions. People could freely choose whether to use the "econ" or some other currency. Of course, it would be a 13th currency within the Community, but if it were successful it could develop into the Community's single currency.

Establishing the "econ" would entail some surrender of monetary sovereignty, but it would not involve transferring sovereignty to any foreign prince, to the rulers of a greater Germany or to the clever operators on a Community committee. The state would give up its power to expropriate its citizens to the principle of a stable currency. The scheme would be like a resuscitation of the gold standard, but without gold's well-known disadvantages. Many statesmen have pleaded the case for a new anchor in gold or commodities to prevent the drift towards inflation. The "econ" seems to be the best anchor one can devise.

Whether the "econ" would be popular with the people of the Community, and whether it would ultimately overcome the reluctance to surrender monetary sovereignty, I do not know. But we shall never know unless it is established and allowed to compete. To introduce it would cost little. If it failed, like the ecu, little would be lost. If it succeeded, it would be the dawn of a new era of monetary stability and security.

The ideas in this article are developed in Sir Alan Walters' *Sterling in Danger: the Economic Consequences of Pegged Exchange Rates* (Romana, £6.99).

Michael Butler urges greater commitment to the Major plan—which he helped draw up—as a step towards full union

Britain builds a bridge: now we must cross it



SOME recent informed comment in Britain has tended towards reluctant acquiescence in the approach to European economic and monetary union of Karl Otto Pöhl, president of the Bundesbank: that full EMU should start with only a few countries participating.

That may make good sense for the Bundesbank, but would in my view be dangerous for the European Community and contrary to the interests of Britain and the other nations outside the magic circle Herr Pöhl envisages. This view ought not to win the day at the intergovernmental conference to be held in December.

What Herr Pöhl proposes is clear. The conference would agree a treaty, signed by all 12 countries, creating a European system of central banks with a common currency ("which might carry the name 'euro'") and with complete central control over monetary policy. This central bank system would be run by a

council modelled on the Bundesbank council, in which power would reside with the chairman and strong directorate of permanent officials, with the governors of the 12 national central banks playing a subsidiary role. All EC countries would nominally be members of the system of central banks, but it would start life with Benelux, France and possibly Denmark. The others would join later when their inflation and interest rates had converged sufficiently.

Herr Pöhl compares this to the Labour government's "soft landing", negotiated in 1978, which made Britain nominally a member of the EMS but not of the exchange rate mechanism. We can do without another European organisation which we will join "when the time is ripe"; this one would be much more important.

What would be the practical consequences? Either directly or using the participating national central banks as its operating arms, the system of central banks would manage euro interest rates and exchange rates (against the pound and the lira as well as the

dollar and the yen) through open market operations and intervention on the foreign exchanges. The Bank of England and the London markets would be highly unlikely to get a fair share of this business, given Paris, Frankfurt and Amsterdam's strong interest in improving their competitive positions. Not only would this business not come to London, but international banks would conclude that London's chances of remaining Europe's main financial centre were sharply diminished. They would shift staff and business elsewhere, and the process would be cumulative with each year that passed.

Significant problems would doubtless arise for the participating countries from a rapid move to full EMU. To solve them would require special meetings of their finance ministers, and perhaps of government leaders. The US and Japan would regard the system of central banks as representing Europe and would negotiate with it directly, even though the outcome would affect all member states. The Community would suffer if one of the most crucial

elements of its closer union were in the hands of only some of its members. The outsiders' views would carry less weight in the EC council.

The system of central banks would develop its own methods of monetary control. Instead of playing a role in forming them, the Bank of England would sit on the sidelines and the system would be marginally more difficult for us to join when the time became ripe. Meanwhile, in a single market with free movement of capital, would Britain, in practice, have any real choice but to follow the central bank's monetary lead?

Herr Pöhl is right that it would be difficult for six of the member states to move rapidly to full EMU. But then in the interests of the EC as a whole, should we not have a proper stage two to prepare the 12 for full EMU as quickly as possible? John Major's plan could begin on January 1, 1993. A European system of central banks consisting of the 12 central banks and a European monetary fund (EMF) owned and run by them could be created on that day. The EMF would manage the hard euro

and the system of central banks would co-ordinate national monetary policies.

The hard euro proposals developed by the Bank of England

would exert strong counter-inflationary pressure in those countries

suffering high inflation rates and would provide a major disincentive to further devaluations.

Once companies saw that the new euro could not be devalued against

the strong currencies, and that there was full convertibility and a leader of last resort, they would have every incentive to hold euro bank balances and to trade in euros.

There would be no further need to hedge euro balances, and transaction costs would be markedly diminished.

The euro would grow quite rapidly as a percentage of the Community's money stock. Instead of being the deutschmark by another name, the hard euro would be a real currency, with its own interest rate structure managed by the EMF.

In any case the mark may not always be the strongest of the 12 currencies.

It is agreed in the monetary community that there must be

transitional arrangements between stage one and stage three, but as yet there are no firm ideas about what they might be. The hard euro plan would help to prepare all member states for full EMU, and would ensure that when the time came to move forward, a working system with a common currency was in place. To move in this way would be far less risky than to jump from even six national monetary policies and currencies to a small union with one currency and one monetary

one to full EMU.

If the government does not make this clear, the Pöhl approach may prevail. Presumably Britain would not sign a treaty setting up such a system of central banks, but the others will go ahead anyway. The European Community will suffer from such a quarrel, and Britain will suffer most by being left on the sidelines once again and having to climb back later.

Sir Michael Butler, an executive director of Hambros Bank, was Britain's permanent representative to the European Community, 1970-85.

...and moreover

ADRIAN DANNATT

THE news due shortly that a giant entertainment corporation is to buy Albania is not surprising. Ever since Gorbachov introduced his reforms, corporate executives have been looking for a suitable socialist state to buy and preserve as a museum of the Evil Empire.

Albania is the last old-fashioned communist country in Europe, and its new owners guarantee that nothing will be changed. The fabric of the country (reinforced concrete, largely) will be kept as it is (damp and crumbling). Staff in Tirana, the capital, will ensure that its unique selling points are not threatened by the transformations that have damaged the touristic integrity of Eastern Europe.

"They were about to pull down all the statues of Stalin, the last to be found anywhere today. We've managed to save them and are now trying to reverse the whole liberalisation process," said a company representative in Tirana, unidentifiable because of the delightfully quaint telephone system.

According to marketing executives, Albania will be cheaper and more profitable to run than other theme parks. These require constant maintenance, while Albania needs only persistent decay. Squat is an essential part of the experience.

Albania's population, a meagre 3.3 million, has long been controlled by the 10,000 or so members of the Sigurimi, or secret police, considerably fewer than the staff required at any other theme park. They will be retained, albeit with a redesigned uniform to emphasise their authoritarian nature. Door-knocking after midnight is to be extended until dawn. For a small surcharge, visitors will be able to experience arrest and interrogation.

Only 210 miles north to south and some 90 miles across at the widest, Albania is of an eminently manageable size, and the logical stop-off for any American visiting Europe who wants to sample "The Stalin Experience".

The corporation expects to capture a large market of tourists hungry for increasingly exotic or impossible locations which also have educational potential. Many of the thousands of Americans who have been flooding to Prague recently have returned

home sorely disappointed by its liberal atmosphere, having hoped to catch a glimpse of a security agent or genuine

glimpse of the fabric of the country (reinforced concrete, largely) will be kept as it is (damp and crumbling). Staff in Tirana, the capital, will ensure that its unique selling points are not threatened by the transformations that have damaged the touristic integrity of Eastern Europe.

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There will be a flat fee for all visitors. The price, not yet fixed, will guarantee hotels without bathplugs or soap, telephones with mysterious tape noises, hour-long queues for undercooked chicken, and the sight of people with placards being bundled into trucks with tinted-glass. Border security will be intensified to deter unauthorised tourists.

"As time goes by, more and more people are going to want to know what life was like under a classic communist dictatorship. In Albania alone, the People's Republic will continue unchanged since 1945." According to a press-release, Albania is already sold out for its first year of business as a political theme park.

"The company's best bargain yet," was the reaction of one Wall Street analyst. "It was bound to happen, ever since someone tried to buy Gdańsk. 'I've already booked a weekend with my girlfriend this Christmas: it promises to be truly chilly.'

Putting on a brave show

Hours before the formal announcement of the elevation of David Mellor to arts minister, the dismissal of his predecessor, Richard Luce, became one of the worst-kept secrets in many a reshuffle. Even more embarrassingly, Luce's staff were seemingly among the last to learn that they had a new boss—many hearing the news from Mark Fisher, Luce's Opposition shadow.

Mellor was one of the first to be called into Mrs Thatcher's office yesterday morning to be told of his promotion—and given the prime minister's new-found interest in all matters cultural, the job is regarded thus. But one can only feel sorry for Luce who, as fate would have it, had to field arts questions in the Commons

I knew as much about the reshuffle as I did about the Arts



only hours before the announcement of his sacking. Although most MPs already knew that it was his last appearance at the despatch box before returning to the backbenches, Luce gamely carried on in best theatrical tradition, pretending that nothing had happened. Fisher, however, could not resist applying the old principle of kicking a man when he is down—by offering Luce fulsome praise and expressing

his sorrow to see him go. The much-travelled Mellor, who has twice been minister of state at the Home Office and was in his last job for less than a year, brings a wealth of knowledge to his new post, by contrast to Luce who freely admitted on his appointment in 1985 that he knew next to nothing about the subject.

Earlier this year Mellor's love of opera led him to strike an extraordinary deal with Labour opponents on the Broadcasting Bill committee, on which he was leading for the government. He persuaded Labour to agree to finish business several hours early to enable him to see the first of Pavarotti's keenly awaited performances in Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore* at Covent Garden. In return, the government agreed to an early finish the following evening to allow Labour's Scottish contingent to catch an early plane to Edinburgh for the weekend.

Whiphand

Most intriguing of the ministerial moves is the least publicised: that of the Tories' most assiduous backroom boy, the deputy chief whip, Tristan Garel-Jones. After eight years at 12 Downing Street, Garel-Jones was in a position to give himself virtually any ministerial post he wanted. He opted for the Foreign Office, presumably to travel the world with his Spanish wife, Catalina, in the hope that he will one day step into Tim Renton's shoes as chief whip.

The only block to Garel-Jones' further advancement was his incurable wetness. But in departing his position of power, he has pulled off a patronage coup that has astonished his colleagues. Garel-Jones has now secured the reappointment to the government of not one but two wets previously sacked by Mrs Thatcher. First he

brought back Alastair Goodlad, who was dropped in 1987 but returned to the whips office last year. Now he has persuaded Mrs Thatcher to appoint the great political rebel Sir George Young, who was sacked in 1986

apparently for nothing more than a liberal inclination to ride a bike to work. There is no question who secured his unrepentant return. With a clout like this, Garel-Jones is a man to watch.

A policeman's lot is not a happy one, but the Met has decided that the boys in blue should not make it quite so obvious. Six middle-ranking officers chosen as guinea-pigs are to go on a course, run by a firm of training consultants, that owes much to the techniques of drama school. "User-friendly body language" will be encouraged—not more flat feet, presumably—and plodding vocal delivery will also be encouraged. "Alla, alla, alla" —one more with feeling?

Snap-happy

Politicians have something of a love-hate relationship with journalists, but their offspring continue to swell its ranks. The latest to follow Carol Thatcher and the Lawsonian pair, Dominic and Nigella, is Rachel Kinnock, 18-year-old daughter of Neil and Glenys, who has landed a holiday job on the picture desk of *The European*. Does Carol Thatcher, just back from an

assignment in America, have any advice for her on how to make it in the world of newspapers despite the drawbacks of a famous political parent? "No," she says. "I cannot give her any. I'm not the right person."

Perhaps not, but press photographers everywhere will surely be delighted to welcome Rachel on board, especially if it stops Labour politicians referring to them as "monkeys", the vernacular mixture of abuse and affection by which they have become known in the business.

Mere flannel

A old tea-towel ad in *The Times*. A small ads for \$25 million? Yes, but it does carry the daubing of one Vincent van Gogh. This picture and a second on conventional canvas (on offer for \$18 million) have been confirmed as genuine by the police arts and antiques squad after initial suspicions that the ad was an elaborate hoax. Van Gogh expert Walter Feilchenfeldt confirms that the paintings are listed in De la Faille's *catalogue raisonné* of the artist's work. The canvas is one of only three nudes the artist ever did, and was painted shortly before his death in 1890, while the picture of field flowers and thistle was daubed on the 19th



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

CONSERVATIVE TO A FAULT

Margaret Thatcher's ministerial reshuffle was a small earthquake and left few dead. Like others over the past year, it was hailed as the "last" before the general election, and thus her final chance to fashion a winning team. Since last summer's reshuffle two ministers, Nigel Lawson and Nicholas Ridley, have vanished. Mrs Thatcher wisely confined this week's changes to junior ranks. Who knows what black holes lurk as the summer progresses?

Mrs Thatcher's aptitude as a personnel manager is widely misunderstood. She is a poor butcher, deeply conservative in her approach to appointments, who does not insist on "one of us" to compose her entourage. Any prime minister who can discard such ideological allies as John Biffen, Sir Leon Brittan, Norman Tebbit, Lord Young, Nigel Lawson and Nicholas Ridley hardly stands guilty of partisanship. While few of these were sacked, Mrs Thatcher did not strive officially to keep any of them alive when the political skids were under them. She has, by contrast, retained in senior positions Douglas Hurd, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Kenneth Baker and Chris Patten, none of them ardent Thatcherites.

Unlike most prime ministers long in office, Mrs Thatcher has not built up a cabal of favourites. The nearest to a kitchen cabinet is the trinity of fiercely loyal officials in Downing Street, Charles Powell, Bernard Ingham and Sir Robin Butler. While political confidants have come and gone, these civil servants have stayed the course. The prime minister sits atop a textbook cabinet structure, in which business is done through cabinet committees supplemented by bilateral meetings and official channels. The model may be defective, short on specific expertise and political intelligence and imposing a huge burden on a few underlings. But Mrs Thatcher's dominance over her government is personal, not organisational. She has been less innovative as a cabinet manager than any prime minister for half a century.

The same conservatism applies to the junior ranks reshuffled yesterday. To be a junior minister, said Richard Crossman, is to be the lowest form of political life. These days, a junior minister must sacrifice earning power outside parliament to become a minor political

functionary. Rarely does a junior minister have the chance to shine, always the chance to commit a gaffe, as Edwina Currie knows to her cost. A junior minister has one ambition, to work for a better job, a task requiring a pathological fixation with self-publicity.

Mrs Thatcher has done nothing to change the nature of junior ministerial office: the long hours, the restless changes of portfolio, the subservience to officials and the sycophancy to Downing Street. There were 85 senior and junior ministers under Lloyd George in 1917. By 1970, this had risen to only 102. Mrs Thatcher has 105. No area of British public life has been so immutable. No attempt has been made to use the House of Lords as a possible way of gaining experience, or recruiting fresh blood into government ranks, despite half-hearted attempts by Lord Wilson and Edward Heath. Mrs Thatcher did try in the mid-1980s to recruit a platoon of "working peers" to the ranks of the House of Lords, then reduced to a handful of hereditary lightweights. This ended in fiasco as the selected tycoons and local government bosses realised that junior office was the most unrewarding of pursuits.

The chief change under Mrs Thatcher has been, if anything, in a reactionary direction, towards tightening the pre-existing closed shop whereby only loyal backbenchers are seen to have skills relevant to modern executive government. While the number of ministers has remained constant, the band of parliamentary private secretaries has risen from 28 in 1979 to 47 today. These almost-ministers receive no extra pay but attend departmental meetings and perform much the same public relations role as do their ministerial elders. On the first rung of promotion, they are less likely to rebel in times of controversy.

The truth could be that the form of cabinet government that emerged during the Great War and has continued virtually unaltered to this day was, by chance, the ideal model for managing a modern political economy. Mrs Thatcher's lack of radicalism towards ministerial appointments may intuitively reflect that. Alternatively, yesterday's reshuffle could be seen as no more than a game of musical chairs in yet another of Britain's archaic professional closed shops.

APPEASEMENT IN PEKING

China's rulers will draw one conclusion from Britain's ill-timed decision to send the outgoing Foreign Office minister, Francis Maude, to Peking today, sidestepping the European Community's ban on ministerial visits following the Tiananmen massacre. They will take it as confirmation that Britain is so anxious to oil the wheels of the machinery transferring Hong Kong to China that neither Peking's treatment of its own subjects, nor its efforts to intimidate Hong Kong, will encounter more than a diplomatically turned other cheek.

The government's excuses for breaking European ranks are the need to reward China for "positive moves" on the human rights front and to improve Sino-British cooperation in the joint liaison group which discusses the mechanics of the transfer. The first, given China's continuing persecution of "counter-revolutionaries" and "bourgeois liberals", is disingenuous. The second suggests a misunderstanding of the way the Chinese negotiate: the less robust Britain shows itself, the harder will be Peking's terms for "cooperation".

The timing of Mr Maude's visit compounds the miscalculation. The House of Lords has just ended debate on legislation to restore British passports to 50,000 key Hong Kong people, a measure sternly opposed by Peking, and Hong Kong is about to place a bill of rights on the statute book. This is bound to look like obedience to Zhou Nan, China's hardline vice foreign minister and de facto ambassador to the colony, who insists that Britain "should always consult China" over Hong Kong policy.

The legislation is a direct response to the anxieties aroused in Hong Kong by Chinese repression. Far from emphasising Britain's sovereign right to rule Hong Kong and spotlighting China's violations of human rights, Mr Maude goes to Peking almost as a supplicant, to judge from Foreign Office briefings. He is to explain to China's rulers that Britain's aims are innocent: bolstering stability and prosperity in Hong Kong. He will apparently be encouraged

if the anticipated rebukes from Peking prove "fairly mild", and if China deigns to grant him a meeting with Li Peng, the prime minister who ordered the Tiananmen massacre.

This journey fits with a pattern of British appeasement of China. Since June 1989, China has removed key safeguards from the Basic Law under which Hong Kong will be governed after 1997. The promise of elections in the Joint Declaration has been reduced to meaninglessness. The jurisdiction of Hong Kong's supreme court has been restricted, the independence of its judges diminished, and an anti-subversion clause added which guarantees that China's promise of "one country, two systems" means two undemocratic systems.

Far from objecting, the Hong Kong government has pandered to China's paranoia. Films and television programmes about Tiananmen have been cut or banned outright. Students who escaped China have been denied Hong Kong visas, and demonstrators charged for petty offences. The governor's political adviser, in a letter to the Chinese authorities this year, cited these moves as evidence of Hong Kong's determination to stop the colony becoming a base for anti-Chinese "subversion".

This week, six Hong Kong campaigners for democracy are being prosecuted under a long-disused 1933 ordinance forbidding the use of loudhailers without prior permission, originally framed to curb noisy street-hawking. The peaceful sit-in to which the case refers took place in February; charges were brought only in May, just before the Tiananmen anniversary.

The loudhailer case makes a mockery of the right of assembly and free speech in Hong Kong's new Bill of Rights, and of ministerial pledges to Hong Kong's people. The prosecution should be dropped forthwith and the law annulled. That such a political trial should accompany Mr Maude's visit to Peking disgraces Britain. That many Hong Kong people believe the timing to be deliberate is an indictment of British policy.

A SONG FOR GERMANY

Few symbols can so unite a nation as its anthem. Few quarrels can so divide it as the choice of one. Germany, a country at the moment with two of everything, has of course two national songs, but even in the land of J. S. Bach they cannot be sung in counterpoint. Lothar de Maiziere, the prime minister of East Germany, has proposed a compromise: matching the merging of the two Germanies by merging their anthems.

There is no contest, of course, between Haydn, whose hymn-like melody graces the western anthem, and Hans Eisler, albeit a tuneful pupil of Schoenberg, who provided the theme for the eastern "Deutschland, Deutschland über alles", the first line of the first verse, has not been heard officially since the war. When the anthem was revived in 1952, in preference to a variant on "God Save the Queen", only the third verse was allowed back into circulation. That stirring first line, which sung or not is inseparable from the tune, was actually written by a German liberal, Hoffmann von Fallersleben, nearly 150 years ago. But although never intended to be as belligerent as it sounds in the light of history, neither that line, nor the first verse's claim to territory "from the Memel to the Maas", strikes quite the right note.

So the western anthem has a famous tune but only one safe verse. The East German anthem, meanwhile, is by no means without merit. It was adopted in the late 1940s with words by Johannes Becher, a reputable poet who later became an indifferent minister of culture, but his prophetic line "Germany, one Fatherland" was abandoned in 1950 after

Stalin failed to obtain a united neutral Germany on his own terms. If a national anthem can sink, this one did: it was played without words until last year's revolution in East Berlin. Then newspapers printed the words for people to sing, and they opened their throats in the streets as the Wall came down.

Herr de Maiziere's merger would begin Haydn's tune with Becher's words: "Arise from the ruins/ Face turned towards the future/ Let us serve you for the good/ Germany one Fatherland." Nobody should object too much to that, provided the words fit Haydn's music. The only real objection — and pedants must stay silent where national anthems are concerned — is the similarity it bears to the West German verse which would follow: "Unity and law and freedom/ For the German Fatherland/ After these let us all strive/ Brotherly with heart and hand." But there is poignant symbolism even in both parts of Germany singing the same things — the repetition here would not be without its point.

The Bonn government may not accept this reminder of the late communist regime of East Berlin. West Germany prefers to see reunification carried out under its own flag. But the events of last year in Berlin, when "Germany one Fatherland" became a cry for freedom in the streets, has given the East German anthem a new dignity and value. It, too, is part of German history, and an expression of the national longing for liberty and unity. Herr de Maiziere's solution is an elegant one which should please all sections of the new Germany and annoy nobody else — just what could be desired in a national anthem.

Potential for error on cot deaths

From Mr P. D. Coleridge Smith

Sir, A paper published in the British Medical Journal on sudden infant death syndrome describes some interesting findings that have been widely publicised in the media (report, July 13).

The authors suggest that infants nursed in the prone position and covered with excessive bedclothes were at greater risk of cot death than those nursed supine or on their side. Such a conclusion is in conflict with what is widely taught in antenatal classes and has doubtless caused much anxiety amongst parents throughout the country. Scrutiny of the methods and data reveal that there is large scope for error and the likelihood that the conclusions drawn by the authors are completely unfounded.

The potential for error arises since the data about sleeping position of the infant, number of covers on the bed and heating of the room were obtained from the parents of the dead child by interviews carried out within 72 hours of the death of the infant. No objective assessment of any of these factors was or could have been made. These data were compared with that derived from interviews with the parents of healthy children of similar age.

Parents recently bereaved of a dearly loved child, who would have had the ordeal of dealing with doctors, police and coroners, might well regard themselves the subject of extreme scrutiny, if not unjustifiable persecution. These parents might not be as objective as the parents of a healthy child, and might make conscious or unconscious efforts to ensure that any suggestion of blame was deflected. Therefore they might be unwilling to admit, even to themselves, that they placed their child supine, which before this paper was published has been taught should be avoided.

Similarly, there may be some bias in reporting the extent to which infants were covered. One

might imagine that parents may tend to exaggerate the extent to which a child was covered or the room heated in order to avoid any possible criticism that they had permitted the child to become cold, a much more widely perceived hazard than overheating suggested by this paper.

The differences reported by the authors between the bereaved parents and those of the control group were substantial: only one dead child of 67 was said to have been nursed supine, whereas 23 healthy children of 134 in the control group slept in this position. This large difference is crucial to the statistical significance of the paper, but the extent of the difference is unusual.

Previous studies have shown that many factors are responsible for sudden infant death, each exerting a small but tangible influence. The size of the effect of nursing prone is so large as to warrant close scrutiny to determine the precise effect of this factor, before accepting it as a real entity. The data presented suggest to me that an error of data collection has occurred, for which there is great scope in the design of the study.

The paper appears to demand a complete U-turn in the management of newborn infants, and is based on data in which there is great scope for error. This publication should be disregarded until more objective data have been obtained. There can be no guarantee that its contents will not result in an increased incidence of sudden infant death due to inhalation of vomit by children placed supine, as is suggested by conventional teaching.

Yours faithfully,
P. D. COLERIDGE SMITH

(Senior lecturer,
University College and Middlesex
School of Medicine,
Department of Surgery,
The Middlesex Hospital,
Mortimer Street, W1)

Improving London

From Ms Sally Hamwee

Sir, Your leader (July 14) challenges Londoners to be more self-assertive in our demands to improve London. Maybe it's because, like every second Londoner I met, I was actually born and bred 200 miles away that I do not object to some rebalancing between London and other British cities. But I do feel that there is a danger that London's place on the European stage will be a casualty of the abolition of our city's strategic government.

This is why the London Planning Advisory Committee, with representation from all the London boroughs, is with others (and with the support of the Bank of England, the London chambers of commerce and the CBI) undertaking a study of what London needs — environmentally, to support business and the arts and entertainment and so on — to be both a world city and a home for Londoners.

Yours faithfully,
SALLY HAMWEE
(Chairman,
London Planning Advisory
Committee,
Easter House,
8-10 Eastern Road,
Romford, Essex.
July 17)

Legitimate grouse?

From Mr Derek Bingham

Sir, I might have found your leader, "Of pike and men" (July 14), less difficult to swallow had you not asserted that we "rear grouse then shoot them". Grouse cannot be reared in captivity. However, the demand for grouse-shooting does ensure that their habitat is carefully managed, which is good for other wildlife and means that our beautiful heather moors are not swallowed up by forestry. Both government and conservation bodies acknowledge this.

Nor should it be overlooked that it was our shooting and hunting ancestors who planted the woods we enjoy now, or that modern-day sporting interests help preserve them from the excesses of modern farming.

This is one reason why we have more wildlife than many other European countries.

I remain, Sir,
DEREK BINGHAM,
Glevering House,
Eaton,
Nr Woodbridge,
Suffolk.
July 15

Legal costs

From Mr John Simon King

Sir, Mr Charles Martin's letter (July 18) is in many ways an illustration of the apparent defensive self-interest prevalent amongst many of our profession which doubtless left Mr A. Wigram (July 11) feeling cheated and powerless following his experience of his solicitors.

The simple fact is that more solicitors, large and small, to follow Law Society regulations at the outset informing clients, so far as possible, who would undertake the work, what that work is likely to involve time-wise (a difficult and often speculative point) and the charging rate of the person involved there would be far fewer complaints both public and private and far fewer people would treat the solicitors' profession with suspicion and mistrust.

Doubtless Mr Wigram heard from his own solicitors that there are or were no scaled charges

pertaining to the type of work carried out and doubtless his solicitors informed him of their increasing overheads, but it is too late for Mr Martin or for Mr Wigram's own solicitors to preach at this stage when the correct point is at the commencement of the business relationship.

Yours faithfully,
J. S. KING,
Langhams (Solicitors),
Grove Road Chambers,
Eastbourne, East Sussex.
July 20

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Putting a curb on the fast buck

From Mr Francis O. J. Orway

Sir, Any government should exercise close control over its expenditure and this country should be grateful to Margaret Thatcher and her early governments for bringing it back under control. But it is unsatisfactory that nearly all government decisions should now be made purely on the basis of short-term financial judgments.

Big business, which may provide significant contributions to the Conservative Party, may favour this approach, but the rank-and-file party supporters, who have the votes and also provide financial support, do not.

Our poor current balance of payments is at least partly due to imports replacing home-manufactured products. A main purpose of city institutions should be to provide finance to aid manufacturing industry. They should not be, what they appear to be becoming, mainly the means of making fast bucks whatever the undesirable effects on manufacturing industries — or even service industries — may be.

Many developments today require long-term investment. How can this be achieved if a company which is endeavouring to carry out long-term developments has to be continually on the lookout against predators?

While a few takeovers may be in the public interest, many are not. Government policy, with legislation if necessary, must aim to reduce the number of takeovers and mergers.

It is absurd for the Government to refuse to give any financial support — call it subsidy, if you wish — to major new projects or

modest help to existing businesses which are clearly of benefit to the nation. We have seen too many cases of such refusals during the Thatcher governments' periods.

Examples include North East Shipyards, some parts of Ravenscraig steelworks, whose capacity may not be essential during the current slack demand but which may well prove of benefit in the longer term; the insistence that all subsidies to British Railways must be eliminated in a short period, with the probable result that more traffic will end up on our already overcrowded roads; the absurd situation of claiming to support wind energy and then setting the rules to make the payback period under the non-fossil fuels obligation (which requires the electricity supply industry to generate 20 per cent of its output from nuclear and renewable energy) as short as eight years, on which basis hardly any wind turbines can be financially viable; and, the last straw, the refusal to give any aid to the rail link from the Channel tunnel to London and through London to the whole of Great Britain.

It is time for a change in government policy, to give more consideration to the real needs of the country, even if it requires some modest use of a little more of the taxpayers' money. If the present leadership will change course, fine. If not, it is time for a change in the leadership. Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS O. J. OTWAY,
Corvara, Cotswold Mead,
Painswick,
Stroud, Gloucestershire.
July 16.

Devaluation "bolthole"

From Mr Christopher Jackson

MEP for Kent East (European
Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, The idea (letters, July 17) that British productivity is so irretrievably a lost cause that removing the bolthole of devaluation would be a "national disaster", is unfounded.

The challenge of increased efficiency is huge but individual British industries, for example steel, have shown how productivity can be increased to international levels if we put our minds to it.

If within European Monetary Union with a single currency our rate of productivity increases were unsatisfactory, the facility would remain, lying not with

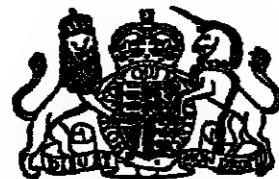
devaluation by a British Government but lower down, at the level of the individual firm's wages.

Devaluation is nothing more than reducing the nation's wages in international terms. British companies would retain full freedom to reduce their wage bills through increased productivity or lowering individual wages. The latter would be better for Britain than the inflation/devaluation cycles from which we have suffered in the past.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON
(Deputy Chairman,
European Democratic Group,
European Parliament,
97-113 rue Belliard,
1040 Brussels, Belgium.
July 17.

Preserving barns

From Miss Rosemary Thomas



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 23: The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, this evening took the Salute at a performance of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court. The Countess of Airlie, Rear Admiral David Allen, Wing Commander David Walker, RAF, Major Sir Guy Acland, Bt, and Mr Douglas Stankey were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon attended part of the Tidy Britain Group's annual 'Coastal Week' at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster, London SW1. Lieutenant Commander Malcolm Sillars, RN, was in attendance.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H.E. Fenton and Miss H.G. Veen van Nieuwenhoven are engaged. The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs R.V. Fenton, of Lundfield, East Yorkshire, and Hetty, daughter of Mr and Mrs T.H. Veen van Nieuwenhoven of Woudenberg, Holland.

Mr D.M.J. Hardman and Miss A.J.A. Barbara are engaged. The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Michael and Jacqueline Hardman, of Chesham, Buckinghamshire, and Agnes (Juliette), younger daughter of Roman and Gisèle Bousquet, of St Yrieix-la-Perche, France.

Sergeant Lieutenant Commander A.G. Hillary, RN and Miss C.E. Pooley are engaged. The engagement is announced between Andrew Guy, only son of Mr and Mrs A.G. Hillary, of Penzance, Cornwall, and Clare Elizabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J.C. Pooley, of Cadby, Leicestershire.

Mr R.N. James and Miss H.C.A. Page are engaged. The engagement is announced between Neil, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A.D.G. James, of Cardiff, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.M. Page, of St Albans.

Mr N.W.J. Jones and Miss G. McCaffrey are engaged. The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Walter Jones, of Burgess Point, Warwick, Bermuda, and Geraldine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dan McCaffrey, of Omagh, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will give a garden party at Buckingham Palace at 4.00. Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke of Gloucester will attend.

The Princess of Wales will open the Mike Heafey Centre, a sports and rehabilitation centre for disabled people funded by ASPIRE at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, at 10.30.

The Duchess of York will visit the Sutton Seeds headquarters at Torquay, at 11.00 and visit the trial grounds at Appleton, Newton Abbott, and will open the new extension to the treatment centre for alcoholism and drug addiction at Broadreach House, Plymouth, at 1.35.

Princess Margaret, as Grand President of the St John Ambulance Association and Brigade, will attend the Tesco charity golf day at Epsom RAC Golf Club at 4.55 in aid of the Order of St John.

The Duke of Kent will open the latest development of Broughton House, home for disabled ex-servicemen, at Kersal, Salford, at 11.00; visit Manchester Business School at 12.15; and as vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will open the new offices of DATA, Altrincham, Cheshire, at 2.45.

Princess Alexandra will visit the headquarters of the Acorn Christian Healing Trust, Whitehill Chase, Bordon, Hampshire, at 2.30.

Appointments

Latest appointments include: Sir Robert Fellowes, who is to become the Queen's Private Secretary in October, to be a Privy Counsellor.

Major-General George Brian Sinclair and Professor Robert John O'Neill will be trustees of the Imperial War Museum.

Dr Paul Geoffrey Mordin, head of the astronomy division at the Royal Greenwich Observatory, to be a member of the board of trustees of the National Maritime Museum.

Mr J.A. B. Joll to be a trustee of the Wallace Collection.

Dr Mary Archer to be a trustee of the Science Museum.

Legal

Mr Justice Swinton Thomas to transfer from the Family Division of the High Court to the Queen's Bench Division, from September 17.

Judge retires

Mr Justice Mars-Jones will retire as a Judge of the High Court, Queen's Bench Division, on September 4. Mr Justice Mars-Jones, who is aged 75, was appointed a High Court judge in 1969.

New Bishop of Horsham

Canon John William Hind, Principal of Chichester Theological College, has been appointed Bishop Suffragan of Horsham, in succession to the Right Rev Ivor Colin Docker, who is resigning on January 31.

OBITUARIES

SERGEI PARADJANOV

Sergei Paradjanov, Soviet film director and dissident, died aged 66 on July 20 in Yerevan, Armenia. He was born on January 9, 1924, in Tbilisi.

SERGEI Paradjanov's career was dogged by bad luck, official disapproval, blatant harassment, financial hardship, and, latterly, ill-health. Yet amidst his difficulties he managed to create some of the most singular works in the history of cinema. *Shadows of Our Forgotten Ancestors* (1964) - a whirling dervish of a film - presented a wild story of feuding and loving in a primitive community, shot in the Carpathian mountains. Festive and art-house audiences world-wide relished its playful visual effects, folk art ambience, and complete absence of official Communist ideology.

Five years later, working at Armenia's regional film studio in Yerevan, Paradjanov completed *The Colour of Pomegranates*, a dazzling fictional treatment of the life of Sayat Nova, an 18th century Armenian prince and poet. Stately tableaux replaced the visual tumult of *Shadows*, yet both films were driven by the same intense passion for local history, folk iconography, music, religious ritual, dance, and a formal aesthetic beauty worlds removed from the officially approved style.

Paradjanov, born Sarkis Sarkisian in Georgia, came from a wealthy artistic family. At first he trained to be a musician - he studied violin and vocal music at the local conservatory. Then in 1946 he moved to Moscow, enrolling at VGIK, the state film academy, where his teachers included Mikhail Romm. Following graduation, he transferred to Kiev, working appropriately, at the Dovzhenko Film Studios, named in honour of the Soviet director whose poetic style of the late 1920s laid the groundwork for much of Paradjanov's achievements.



At least three features emerged before *Shadows*, none of them shown to Western audiences; we can only guess at their style and achievement.

Along with Tarkovsky's *Andrei Rublev*, Tengiz Abuladze's *The Invocation* and other outstanding Soviet films of the 1960s and 1970s, Paradjanov's mature work drew much of its defiant beauty and fire from its purely local roots. Moscow viewed the flourishing regional film

scene with increasing unease; in the Communist party's eyes, unduly "ethnic" films provoked nationalism and defied its central authority.

The Colour of Pomegranates, officially branded "heretic and obscure", was kept off the screen for five years, and finally released with cuts, while the director himself became the target for a campaign of defamation.

The climax came in 1973, when Paradjanov was arrested

and put on trial for multifarious offences, including illegal currency dealings, homosexuality, spreading venereal disease, and "incitement to suicide". He was convicted solely of homosexuality (still a crime in the Soviet Union), serving three years of a five-year sentence before an international campaign secured an amnesty. Paradjanov returned home to Tbilisi, where he filmed a short, *Sign of the Times*, showing himself back among neighbours and friends, taking the viewer on a guided tour of his house, furnishings, and collection of antiques. This was entirely characteristic through all his life's upheavals, Paradjanov somehow retained the manner of a grand seigneur.

Soviet officialdom continued its harassment in 1982. Paradjanov was re-arrested, for unspecified crimes, though this time he avoided jail. As the political climate improved, Paradjanov resumed feature film-making. *The Legend of the Suram Fortress*, officially selected for the 1985 Moscow Film Festival, sumptuously recreated a Georgian legend about the building of a fortress, while *Astik Kerib* (1988), nominally derived from a Lermontov story, re-acted in tableaux form the adventures of a poor, wandering minstrel - like most Paradjanov heroes, a surrogate for the beleaguered artist himself.

Both films offered precious visual feasts, though neither scaled the heights of their predecessors. By this time Paradjanov was already seriously ill with lung cancer; shooting of *Astik Kerib* had been further complicated by a heart attack following the removal of one lung. His place in cinema history, though, was already assured by *Shadows of Our Forgotten Ancestors* and *The Colour of Pomegranates*, master films by an aristocratic, obstinate artist, clinging to his vision through thick and thin.

RAYMOND MAWBY

Raymond Mawby, Tory trade unionist and junior minister in the Macmillan government, who was MP for Tonnes from 1955 to 1983, has died aged 68. He was born on February 6, 1922.



RAY Mawby, a former shop steward who had left school at the age of 14, was the improbable choice to stand as Conservative candidate for the blue-ribbon seat of Tonnes in 1955. He won with the constituency's usual impressive Tory majority and remained in the Commons for 28 years, only to be ousted by boundary redistribution.

Mawby was a Warwickshire boy, educated at Long Lawford Council School. He became an electrician in nearby Rugby and joined what was then the Electrical Trades Union. He went into local government, winning a seat on Rugby borough council in his fifth attempt, and eventually became president of the Rugby branch of the ETU. Like many others with a similar background and talent, he wanted to be an MP. Only one thing marked Mawby out. He was a Tory.

The Conservatives were anxious in the 1950s to escape from their reputations as a class party and Mawby, with his obvious charm and fierce convictions, was a recruit of great value. He became the first president of the Conservative Trade Unionists advisory committee, an organisation which though derided by Labour was considered of considerable propaganda use by the Tories. When Mawby was chosen as prospective candidate for Tonnes there was rejoicing in Central Office.

In the Commons Mawby worked hard, but was never a commanding figure. The high point of his career came when Harold Macmillan made him assistant Postmaster-General in 1963. The appointment only lasted for 19 months until the Labour victory in the 1964 election. Mawby never held office again.

He was a very private person, not always happy in his business ventures outside the house, and in *Who's Who* entry, often ran no more than four lines. He was married in 1944 and had a son, who died early, and a daughter.

But his parliamentary career appeared to be winding down and, early in 1983 the official letter to the House of Commons Parliamentary Debates revealed that 10 MPs had failed to record one word in the last session of the House. Mawby was one of them and when he did rise to his feet some immediate he was clearly hampered by Labour MPs who had never forgiven him for becoming a Tory.

All this did not help when boundary changes later that year meant that his old constituency disappeared and was replaced by the new constituencies of Leicestershire and South Northants. Mawby failed to secure the nomination for either and announced soon afterwards that he would not seek another seat.

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MAXWELL NEWTON

Maxwell Newton, who founded *The Australian national newspaper* for Rupert Murdoch, died aged 61 on July 23, at Boca Raton, in Florida. He was born on April 28, 1929.

MAXWELL Newton was a significant political economist, who used journalism as just one of his vehicles to enthuse and inform. Right until his death from a series of massive strokes, his writings were widely syndicated throughout the world. He had a range of friends and followers who depended on his strongly individualistic insights into the world's economics and currencies.

Life was rarely comfortable for him. He was, like all of his generation in Australia, greatly influenced by the depression, the more so because of his upbringing in what was then the economically undernourished and physically isolated city of Perth.

Maxwell Newton went,

through scholarships, to the University of Western Australia and Clare College, Cambridge, where he read economics. He also studied at the Sorbonne, paying part of his rent by acting as cook for his room mates. His fluency in French remained with him throughout his life.

He returned to Australia and a post at the Reserve Bank, but this caged his already restless spirit. He was, despite his quick grasp of politics and economics, already a *bon vivant*, and with a liking for alcohol which was to create difficulties later. He left the Reserve Bank, however, to take over *The Australian Financial Review*. Within a remarkably short period it had become a daily of considerable political and financial influence in Australia, thanks solely to the vision and drive of a very young Maxwell Newton. He was lured from this post by Rupert Murdoch to found *The Australian*, the

country's first general-circulation national newspaper.

The Australian was, like everything Newton tackled, an outstanding achievement. Maxwell Newton, the editor and individual, never talked down to his readers or listeners. He believed that they understood the world as well as he, and that he was merely offered the opportunity to give vent to his enthusiasm.

He was a natural leader, but quarrelled with Murdoch about the way *The Australian* should be run and, being incapable of compromise, left the newspaper to start his own series of newsletters in Canberra, and to write for other journals such as the *Financial Times*. In this regard, with the exception of one other newsletter from the Australian capital, he became the father of the Australian newsletter industry. But newspapers remained in his blood, and Newton accepted an offer from Western Australian iron

ore magnates Hancock and Wright to form a new Sunday newspaper in Perth, *The Independent*. This, after *The Australian*, was the first major metropolitan newspaper started up in Australia in decades.

At that time, he began acquiring country newspapers throughout New South Wales, and began publishing other specialist newspapers and journals from his Canberra base. The acquisition of daily shipping newspapers brought him to Sydney at the beginning of 1970s.

All of Maxwell Newton's growing empire was built on enthusiasm and great ideas - and the ability to enthuse financiers, advertisers and readers - rather than on business skills. He was never a businessman. He was another Australian with whom he had shared journalistic adventures over the years, Gregory Peck, acquired *The Daily Guide*, of San Francisco, in 1971. But

by this time enormous cashflow pressures on his growing chain of newspapers in Australia brought about a dependence on drink.

He was, within a few years, bankrupt and penniless, and hounded by the Australian taxation authorities over what they believed to be missing funds. There were, however, no missing funds; only Newton's poor business practices which had allowed monies to be poured into desperate efforts to save his newspaper.

Financially broken and now with two marriages destroyed, Newton lived in Melbourne in obscurity until Rupert Murdoch saw an article by Newton about the Gordon years of Canberra politics. Murdoch asked Maxwell Newton to go to New York to tackle an editorial problem.

Maxwell Newton began writing again with his old ferocity and sagacity. Murdoch asked him to stay in New York as finance editor of the *New York Post*, and in this capacity Newton created a new following, enhanced by worldwide syndication of his writings on economics. Returns of *The Times* will miss his regular financial commentary.

US Notebook, in the Business Section. Maxwell Newton's health continued to suffer. He successfully survived a heart attack, cancer, and a stroke. And yet his vitality remained.

He loved living in the United States, especially when he moved to Florida to write in more peaceful surroundings than New York, but never lost his indelible Australian attitudes and accent. He was, despite his massive frame, the classic "little Aussie battler", the underdog who tackles any obstacle, any adversity, with great cheer and sardonic humour. But he never felt quite secure enough about his legal status to go home to Australia, even for a visit.

Chinese embassy earns black mark

By CHRISTOPHER WARWICK, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE CHINESE embassy, which has a chequered history in its treatment of the buildings it occupies in London, has clashed with English Heritage and Westminster City Council over a startling decision given to an eighteenth century Grade II* listed building in Portland Place, London.

The house, built by Adam between 1776 and 1780, used by the Chinese consulate and trade mission, and one of a number of properties in the street owned by the people's republic, has been given a heavy coat of black paint, with the mortar picked out in white lines.

An embassy official denied that they had disfigured the building, claiming that the original colour was black. "Because it is new, it looks too bright and we have been asked to make it look old. We are having discussions on this."

English Heritage was alerted by a firm of architects, and a spokesman commented that the painting was "too strong".

Chinese officials have been advised to paint the building in a more sympathetic way, and the Chinese were required to rebuild the houses as they had been.

Christenings

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Harrison-Allen was christened Isobel Camilla Honoria, by Father Paul Davies at Jeffreyson Parish Church, on July 21. The godparents are Mr James Lewis, Mr Sebastian Mills, Lady Celia Adams and Mrs Thomas Lloyd.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Simon Bolivar, 1783; Caracas, Venezuela; Dumas père, 1802; Edward Cardwell, Viscount Cardwell, 1813; Frank Wedekind, German writer, 1864; E.F. Benson, writer, Wellington College, 1867; Ernst Bloch, composer, Geneva, 1880.

DEATHS: George Vertes, engraver, London, 1756; John Colman, water-colourist, London, 1842; Sacha Guitry, actor and dramatist, Paris, 1957; Peter Sellers, actor, 1980. Jacques Cartier landed in Canada claiming the country for France, 1534; Gibraltar taken by the British, 1704.

Reception

H.M. Government Baroness Hooper, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health, was host at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lancaster House to mark the golden jubilee of Age Concern.

Latest wills

Sir Kenneth Mathew, FRS, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, formerly professor of genetics at Birmingham University, left estate valued at £250,026 net. She left a third of her estate each to the Cancer Research Campaign and a sixth each to the Jewish Blind Society and the London Association for the Blind.

Mr Joseph Alexander Rhind, of Poynton, Cheshire, left estate valued at £1,171,677 net. Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Mrs Bridget Patricia Hewens, of Thatcham, Berkshire, £260,615. Mrs Cynthia Amelia Israel, of London N2, £523,803. Mr Thomas Ronald Jenkins, of Stowe, Bucks, £24,500. Mr Leslie Morrison Keegan, of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, £554,528.

Mrs Winif

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

I trust in God and am not afraid; I praise him for what he has provided. What can a mere human being do to me? Psalm 56 : 4 C.N.E.

BIRTHS

ANDERSON - On July 19th, in Culler, to Sarah (née Piel) and a daughter Katherine Louise, a baby sister for Thomas.

BOYD - On July 21st, to John and Marsha and Alan, a daughter, Sophie Therese.

BORTHWICK - On July 20th, 1990, to Marlow and their son, Samuel David, a son.

BROUGHTON - On July 20th, to Tracey (née Howcroft) and James Alexander.

CORR - On July 18th, at The Portland Hospital, to Fiona (née Thompson) and David, a daughter.

CUTTING - On July 21st, to Fiona (née Hopkins) and Nicholas, a daughter, Elizabeth Stephanie.

DAUBENY - On July 22nd, to Sue, a son, Charles William James, a brother for Sarah, Amanda, Sophie and George.

FAIRFAX - On July 21st, at Colchester Hospital, to Fiona (née Shand) and Stuart, a beautiful daughter, Sophie, a sister for Alexandra.

FARRER - On July 22nd, to Muriel (née Dixon) and Joseph, a son, Jack Oliver.

FOURMAN - On July 21st, to Karen (née Webb) and Jake, a daughter, Alexandra.

GOULDMAN - On July 20th, at The Portland Hospital, to Gillian (née Berry) and Richard, a daughter, Rosanna Gabrielle.

HARRISON - On July 11th, to Sophie (née Scott) and Michael, a son, Alexander.

HERBERTSON - On July 23rd, at Huddersfield Hospital, Huddersfield, to Jennifer (née North) and Ian, a daughter, Emma Louise, a sister to Rebecca.

HEYWOOD-JONES - On July 21st, to Sue, a son, Edward, a brother for James and a daughter, Sophie.

KENNEDY - On July 22nd, in San Francisco, to Elizabeth (née Ross) and David, a daughter, Philippa Elizabeth, a son for James, Juliet and Amanda.

LASSETTER - On July 14th, to Bernard and Tom, a son, Edward, a brother for James and a daughter, Sophie.

LAUDER - On July 19th, at The Portland Hospital, to Monica (née Greenfield) and Jonathan, a daughter.

LAWRENCE - On July 19th, to Lyn (née Swan) and Steven, a son, Calum.

MORTON - On July 18th, at University College Hospital, to Linda (née Howson) and William, a daughter, Isobel Jane, a sister for Alice.

NOLAN - On July 19th, 1990, at City Hospital, Nottingham, to Garry (née Nolan) and Dominic, a son, Benedict James.

ODIERS - On July 20th, 1990, in Herts (née McDonald) and James, a daughter.

ODIERS - On July 21st, to Rachel and Edward, a son, Joseph, a daughter, Sophie, a brother for Thomas and Helen.

ODIERS - On July 20th, to Lorraine and Edward, a son, Alan, a daughter, Sophie.

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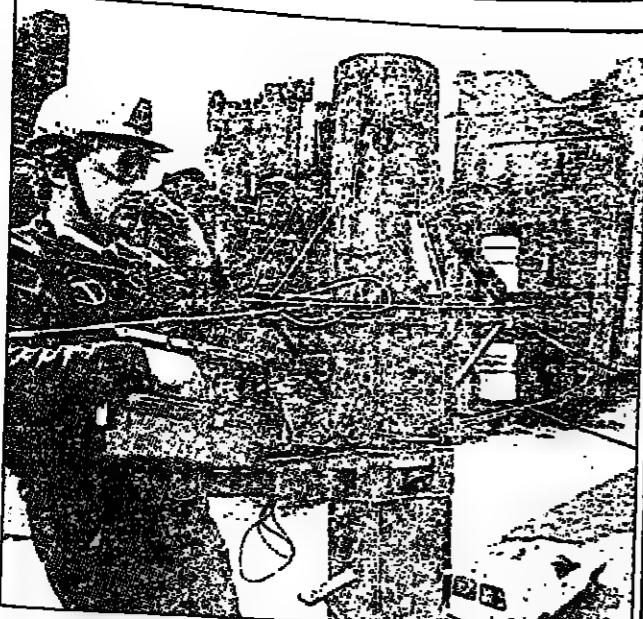
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Old-style telephone pole: may disappear from landscape

Severing links with the old network

Wire connections for telephones may be replaced by radio waves

Britain is considering pioneering a telephone technology that could save the billions of pounds spent on creating and maintaining telephone networks. The familiar landmark of the telephone pole could, however, disappear with it.

Telephone subscribers would no longer have their phones connected by wire, but would use radio links to units located nearby.

Using pocket telephones, customers would have the equivalent of a cordless phone at home and be able to use them within 200 yards of their local base station – and all for the same price as fixed lines.

The move could also provide a boost for the operators of the ailing telepoint cordless payphone systems, introduced last year.

The technology centres on the local loop, the last link between the local telephone exchange and a subscriber's phone. This is a combination of underground cables accessible only via manholes and overhead wires reached only by climbing telegraph poles, thus making it difficult and expensive to maintain.

Experts estimate this part of the telephone network accounts for more than half of total network expenditure. British Telecom alone spends about £2.7 billion a year. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that much of the local loop is old and needs replacing, which would cost more millions.

For some time, however, an idea has been mooted that might not only provide a solution to the local loop problem, but also offer the opportunity to introduce more competition to the industry. Sir Bryan Carsberg, director-general of telecommunications, is especially keen on encouraging competition. The solution involves the use of radio links to replace wires in the final link.

The cordless local loop, as it is known, should be cheaper to install and maintain, and offer instant connections for new subscribers or additional lines, for example, for facsimile machines.

By being offered as an alternative to the traditional

PETER PURTON

method of cables and wires, some supporters say it would introduce competition to a neglected sector.

Competition, while having led to an overall fall in costs, has been far more effective for larger clients and long-distance callers than for smaller users, such as domestic and small-business subscribers.

Prices on long-distance calls have fallen considerably, while the cost of local calls has risen. The issue of increasing competition in the local loop is expected to be paramount at the duopoly review in October when the government is to study the effects of competition on telecom services.

Advocates of the cordless local loop as the means to introduce more competition say it is a more sensible alternative to allowing two competing traditional operators.

"It makes no more sense to run two pairs of copper wire to a home than it does to have two alternative water pipes," says Chris Cant, the strategic planning director at Ferranti Crediphone.

Supporters of "neighbourhood telepoint" have received a boost. At a telecoms conference in Singapore last month, Sir Bryan confirmed he was considering the use of telepoint technology for local loop services.

"It would be a perfectly viable way of providing full service to the home," he said. "We are reviewing our competition policy later this year, and the possibility of extending telepoint to permit provision of service to the home will be considered."

Perhaps the biggest problem facing telepoint's attempts to provide the basis for the cordless local loop is that of personal communications networks (PCNs). This technology, due to come on stream in 1992-3, was designed with the cordless local loop in mind.

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Scientists may have found an answer to the long-term disposal of nuclear waste, David Concar writes

Progress in sea-dumping research

With effective methods for its long-term disposal yet to be developed, high-level radioactive waste is the bane of the nuclear industry. One solution has been burial on land, but new research offers a glimmer of hope for advocates of burial beneath the ocean floor.

High-level radioactive waste remains dangerous for hundreds of thousands of years, so its safe containment, whether on land or in the sea, requires multiple barriers. The first is likely to be a canister with a claimed life of between ten and 100 years.

The second could be a concrete vault buried on land or, in the case of sea burial, under the sediment just below the ocean floor. No such schemes have yet been implemented, and at present high-level waste is housed in temporary storage tanks.

One fear about the sea option is that when the waste eventually leaks out of its canisters it will rise up through the seabed and escape into the bottom water, where it could easily contaminate fish and eventually the food chain. In the current issue of *Nature*, Dr Sarah Colley and Dr J. Thomson, from the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences in Godalming, Surrey, report findings that partly allay that fear.

They have calculated the rates at which a certain number of naturally occurring radioactive elements migrate through sediments in the bed of the North Atlantic. For hundreds of thousands of years, the researchers say, all but one of the elements has stayed put in the seabed. None

has succeeded in contaminating the overlying sediments or bottom water.

The researchers' calculations are based on measurements of the distribution of uranium-238 and the products of its radioactive decay in a natural deposit of radioactive material.

Because the sediments were originally laid down with uranium-238 sprinkled evenly through them, and because scientists know their approximate age, Dr Colley and Dr Thomson were able to work out whether any uranium-238 or its decay products had moved at all in the last 500,000 years. Only radium-226 showed signs of mobility, and even then it had moved at a snail's pace, covering a mere 20cm.

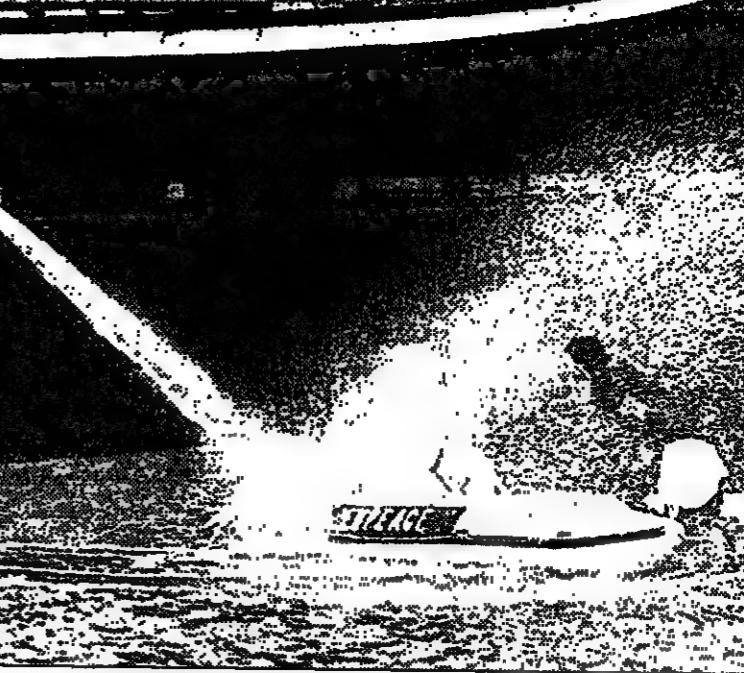
According to Dr Colley, the main value of their approach is that it provides a direct test of the migration of radioactive elements under natural geochemical conditions and over time scales appropriate for the containment of nuclear waste. She says: "It is better than doing a lab experiment, in which you take a piece of deep-sea sediment, bring it up to the surface and load it with a radioactive element."

Dr Colley emphasises that the study looks at only naturally occurring radioactive elements and that although some of these are also present in radioactive waste, other waste elements could behave quite differently. It is also impossible to predict, she says, what would happen to any radioactive waste if conditions on the sea floor changed suddenly.

At present, there is no national policy on the long-term disposal of

high-level nuclear waste and the government has no immediate plans to develop one. Current practice is to vitrify the waste, then store it in temporary "surface" storage tanks at Sellafield in Cumbria. A British Nuclear Fuels official says that Sellafield could "cope with it for most of the next century, although many people think it would be much better to consign the material to a permanent repository".

But plans are afoot to implement permanent deep-disposal schemes



Flashback: hoses are aimed at a Greenpeace boat trying to prevent nuclear waste being dumped at sea

for low-level and intermediate-level nuclear waste. These schemes, which are entirely land-based, are being developed by Nirex, a Harwell-based company that would like to dispose of nuclear waste. The Department of Energy is evaluating the schemes.

Meanwhile, Dr Colley is investigating the suitability of an off-shore site, near Sellafield, as a deep-sea repository that could be accessed from the coast, although such a site, she warns, would not offer a "final

solution". There has been a temporary halt on the disposal of British nuclear waste in the sea since the early 1980s, when public opinion, and the National Union of Seamen, turned against the practice of dropping canisters of low-level waste from ships.

If public and political opinion can be turned over the question of burial under the ocean floor, as opposed to dropping waste in the ocean, any future debate on the merits of land versus seabed disposal may draw on the new research.

© Nature Times News Service, 1990

Breakthrough on bone disease that hits women

New hope for an estimated 200 million people worldwide

Researchers believe that a new drug, which can prevent spinal fractures in women with osteoporosis, represents one of the biggest advances in the treatment of the brittle-bone disorder. The disease, most common in post-menopausal women because of hormonal changes that make their bones porous and brittle, affects an estimated 200 million people worldwide, including about two million in the UK.

About 20,000 elderly British women die every year from complications due to fractures caused by the condition.

Doctors in the United States have reported that the drug etidronate significantly reduced the incidence of new vertebral fractures in osteoporotic women treated with it for two years. Their study, covering 429 patients and reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, confirms those of a similar but smaller study in Copenhagen. Dr Nelson Watts, of the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, who led the latest trial, found that the drug stopped bone loss in the spine and reduced by half

the new fractures in women taking the drug, compared with those given a placebo. In women with severe osteoporosis, the drug reduced spinal fractures by 66 per cent. Dr Watts says: "These are truly exciting results. The drug can be given orally and is essentially free from side-effects."

"It should be a welcome addition to the therapeutic options for osteoporosis."

Bone is constantly replaced in a natural process involving the resorption of old bone and the formation of new bone. Among the old, and especially after the menopause, resorption can exceed formation, leading to bone loss and fractures. The drug slows resorption, preventing further structural damage.

The first sign of osteoporosis in many women is a compression fracture causing loss of height and the

onset of the characteristic upper back deformity commonly called "dowager's hump".

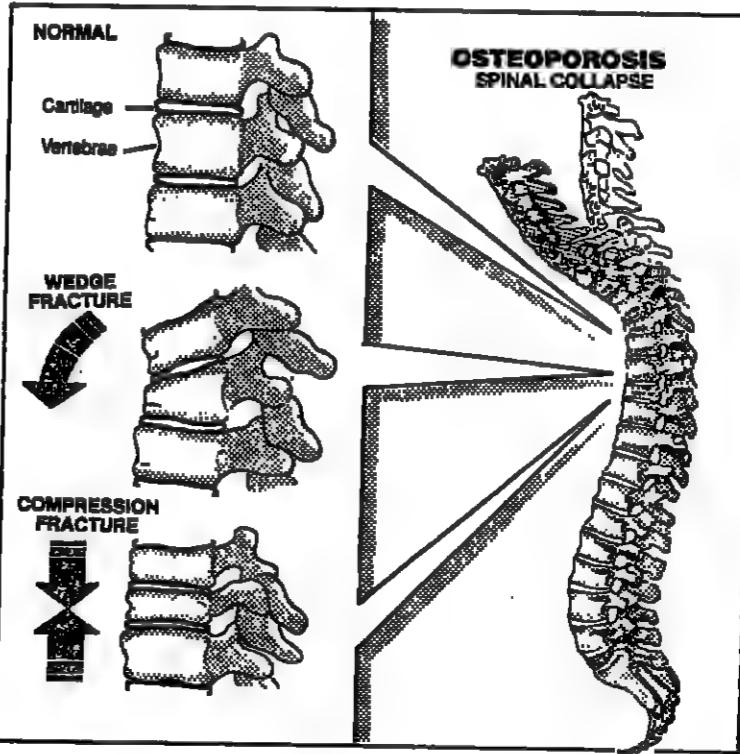
Etidronate has been used since 1978 to treat Paget's Disease, a less-common condition, which deforms bones and makes them more prone to fracture.

It has not been approved for use in osteoporosis in the US by the Food and Drug Administration, but its maker, Norwich Eaton Pharmaceuticals, a division of the Procter and Gamble company, said last week that it soon would seek permission.

The most successful alternative treatment for the condition is hormone replacement therapy (HRT), using oestrogen, which is produced in smaller amounts by the body after the menopause. Treatment is recommended at about the age of 50 for up to ten years and not later than the age of 65.

Earlier this year, the Office of Health Economics, which is funded by the British drugs industry, said HRT could halve the number of fractures caused by the condition.

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The fashion crowd at Chanel this week: many *petites mains* make light work as Karl Lagerfeld sketches and model Linda Evangelista smiles through the pins

The creation of Karl's couture

This afternoon in Paris Karl Lagerfeld will show his new Chanel collection. Liz Smith finds out what lies behind a £10,000 price tag

A crackle of applause will greet the first appearance of Karl Lagerfeld's new line, the Slope, at the Chanel show this afternoon. The Slope is his latest Chanel jacket, with a narrow-fitting shoulder line. A sigh of amazement will no doubt come at the end of the show, when three of the world's top models appear in the finale wedding dresses. M Lagerfeld does not see why he should have only one traditional bride when he has three glorious women on tap.

Yet to understand what is so special about Parisian haute couture, and to appreciate what justifies spending £10,000 on an outfit, you should see a couturier at work on his last fittings in the days running up to the show.

In Coco Chanel's studio, high up in the couture house in the rue Cambon, the windows are wide open in the heat of a Paris July afternoon. M Lagerfeld is surrounded by teams of assistants, including two women who are furiously writing down his every instruction. White-coated *petites mains*, the seamstresses from the ateliers, come in and out with each creation. Gilles Dufour, M Lagerfeld's assistant, who works with him on everything he does, from Fendi in Rome to his own KL ready-to-wear collection, is in a pale linen suit with a tubercle in his buttonhole. M Lagerfeld is, as ever, wearing a dark suit. The fan he picks up from time to time is no concession to the heat, but an affection that has become his trademark.

He sits at a semi-circular walnut

desk picking up black or red pens to scribble a sketch, or improvise a note to an accessory-maker, on a stack of black-and-white edged writing paper. Inspired by a bag with Chanel's new, fine chain he has just been handed, he sketches a shoe with an ankle chain. A squat, square album is beside him, decorated with tiny gold fans on the cover, one of several journals in which he pastes the photographs and makes the notes that are a diary of his life. Facing him is a screen on which are pinned sketches of the 85 creations he designed more than two months ago, and which the couture house is busy finishing. Each one is pinned with swatches of its cloth and trimmings, marked with a number and the name of the model on whom it has been fitted.

On the desk are trays of the latest animal jewellery — zebras, lobsters, parrots — made out of mosaics of colourful stones. A mosaic reincarnation of M Lagerfeld's Jack Russell terrier, Lord

Ashton (from *Lucia di Lammermoor*), is being pinned to a violet tweed suit. The perfectly matched braiding on the violet houndstooth tweed (from a Scottish mill) has been handmade by pulling threads of the tweed itself and twisting them into an improvised trimming.

The swag front on an ivory satin dress is being pinned and repinned on model Linda Evangelista by Mme Collette, première of the *atelier flou*, a *trousse de travail* containing scissors and pins hanging around her neck. The hemline of the violet tweed suit is pinned by M Paquito, in a white coat with a hedgehog pincushion strapped to his wrist. As premier of the *atelier tailleur*, he has 65 workers underneath him. When a soft pink velvet halter dress with long tails elongated into a train arrives to have its pearl collar and waistband attached, the girl who is making it is brought in and formally introduced to the designer.

Alongside Mr Lagerfeld's desk

gloves and even the tights that will be chosen to go with each outfit. These cards then hang with the finished outfit, so the model can be dressed to the designer's precise instructions for the show.

The work of making the 85 outfits being shown is done in the couture house's four ateliers, where more than a hundred *petites mains* have been employed since early June. M Lagerfeld, a prolific and speedy worker, supplies M Paquito with five sketches at a time. "I do everything myself and oversee every last detail," the designer says. "The price of couture clothes sounds ridiculously extravagant. But no costing can really calculate these unique creations, that may have taken 350 hours of painstaking craftsmanship to bead and embroider."

In the end the real couture experience belongs only to the customer. The moment she lifts a dress off her hanger and steps into the perfectly crafted interior, fitted to every line and curve of her body, is something that cannot be shared. She will have stood for fittings when a sleeve that looks a perfect fit to the layman is torn out and pinned back, just so. A skirt will not have been shortened at the hemline, but refitted to the curve of the small of the back. At each fitting two vendees will grab the customers' arms as she steps out of a dress — in case the dress falls.

"Couture," M Lagerfeld says, "is easier than ready-to-wear. I think differently. Ready-to-wear is a reflection of modern life, but couture is a dream, a reverie for a few happy people in the world."

The pottery is reasonably priced (about £6.50 for cups and saucers,



Typical Portmeirion ware
for nostalgia — which rather maddened me because I would much rather have done my own thing."

Coming up roses at Portmeirion

The Prisoner's village pottery breaks out into the world of export success

Susan Williams-Ellis was raised on the principle that "good design is good business". This was the motto of her father, the architect Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, who created the fantasy village of Portmeirion in North Wales — known throughout the world as "The Village" in the long-running Sixties television series *The Prisoner*, starring Patrick McGoohan.

Together with her husband, Euan Cooper-Willis, Miss Williams-Ellis has used her inherited talent to create a business which has just been awarded the Queen's Award for Export Achievement.

The commendation will be presented to Portmeirion Pottery in a ceremony at its headquarters in Stoke-on-Trent today for having recorded a pre-tax profit of almost £3 million last year, with 45 per cent of its £13 million turnover consisting of exports to 34 countries.

Although Portmeirion Pottery is produced in Staffordshire, its spiritual home is in the Italianate village which Sir Clough Williams-Ellis designed in the 1920s. Miss Williams-Ellis grew up in Portmeirion and started out simply wanting to produce

something better than the somewhat tawdry selection of goods the village shop then sold. Her husband remembers things slightly differently. "Sir Clough wanted to build and, finding us willing, left us to make money to pay for his constructions," he says.

The sturdy oven-to-table ware has an unsophisticated cottage kitchen look and the unstudied charm of a country garden — it takes its inspiration from antique natural history books and acknowledges the influence of great designs of the past such as the multi-patterned porcelain of Catherine the Great.

You cannot collect a matching set of Portmeirion Pottery. When you set your dinner table with its most popular Botanic Garden theme (which accounts for 65 per cent of the company's pottery sales) it should end up looking like a botanic garden. "Some flowers come only in teacups, others on bowls and butter dishes," Miss Williams-Ellis says.

The pottery is reasonably priced (about £6.50 for cups and saucers,

teapots £23, vases from about £12) because it is not hand-painted and the decoration is added by silkscreen transfers.

The Pomona fruit range is produced by this method, with grapevines on the bread crocks and large serving plates and berries, apples and other fruits on the coffee and tea cups, pots, casseroles and soup tureens. A complete set contains a cornucopia of produce from the orchard and vine.

At the age of 72 Miss Williams-Ellis still turns the pottery shapes initially on the lathe herself. She is a "passionate" snorter who has been painting marine life underwater "since just after the war, when aqua-lungs were developed using theatrical greasepaints before oil pastels were available".

Her work was originally much more starkly modern than the cosy, cottagey, country feel which Portmeirion pottery has come to embody. The early Portmeirion designs, which were discontinued after the astounding success of Botanic Garden, "Lord Snowdon" bought quite a bit in the early days," Miss Williams-Ellis says. "But there was a great fashion

for nostalgia — which rather maddened me because I would much rather have done my own thing."

The realisation that what was good business could also be good design was a crucial turning point: Botanic Garden was born in 1972 and was immediately hailed as both. So there was no going back.

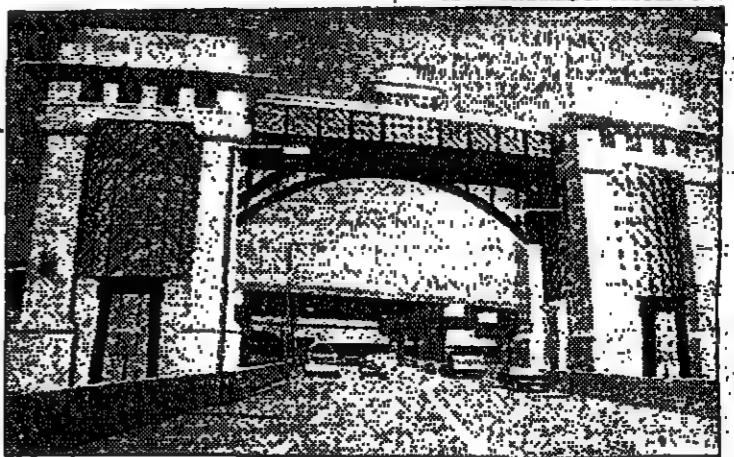
Many people have since produced work with a similar look. There is Portmeirion-esque pottery in Marks & Spencer (the Ashberry range), Habitat (Jardin de France) and from Royal Worcester Spode (Stafford Flowers) as well as from Villeroy & Boch (Botanica).

Miss Williams-Ellis, however, admits to having become "heartily sick of most of it. I've done so much work on it that by the time it comes out, I'm bored with it," she says. "We do use it at home, but I try to vary it. We are just swooping Pomona for a rose and passion-flower design that has been discontinued because no one would buy it."

VICTORIA MCKEE

Flavouring the spaghetti

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Classic solution: Robert Adam's proposed office towers

From rainforests to tower blocks, the solutions to humanising Spaghetti Junction

Spaghetti Junction, the 30-acre mess of motorways and slip roads outside Birmingham, is famously horrid. A monument to Sixties engineering, it sprawls across the countryside, with no concern for the spaces, and people, below and around it.

BBC's *Late Show* asked five contemporary architects whether it could be reclaimed, and made attractive or useful. On Thursday, an exhibition of their proposals opens at the Royal Institute of British Architects (Riba).

The architects ranged from the classical (Robert Adam) to the avant-garde (Melanie Sainsbury, former member of the NATO group); from a community architect (Ted Cullinan) through landscape architects (Pirkko Higson and Stuart Pearson), to a large international developer (Swanke Hayden Connell).

Their solutions varied widely. Higson and Pearson suggest planting giant redwood trees and trying to create a rainforest atmosphere underneath the flyovers. Swanke Hayden Connell favour building 16 stores of offices and shops above the carriageway.

Mr Adam's is the most dramatic offering. He proposes building three classical office towers linked by a suspension bridge over the motorway. Passing at speed through those would, he believes, be "thrilling — like flying through in a helicopter". The towers, he says, "would transform Spaghetti Junction into a great cultural landmark, from being an engineering landmark by default".

Mr Higson and Mr Pearson suggest constructing a 200 metre-high latticed tripod, which could be lit by lasers at night. They call it the Birmingham Gate and believe it would be a counterpoint to the massive roads snaking past it.

But Mr Pearson says their concern was primarily with "the landscape as people perceive it". They decided the dark and threatening atmosphere beneath the junction could be turned to advantage, by creating a rainforest atmosphere — planting redwoods, irrigating from above, painting the columns, and having rope bridges across the treets.

Ms Sainsbury envisages not redwoods but a service station —

and their final recommendation, two curved buildings, the higher of 16 storeys, straddling the motorways and responding to the dynamic of the site".

Was the project a useful exercise? With so many blighted areas, the junction would in reality be a low priority for redesign. But it captured the popular imagination, and the Riba exhibition may yet help the debate as to how architects should approach our public spaces.

GERALDINE BEDELL
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REVIEWS

Building a sense of unity

DANCE

Adzido
Queen Elizabeth Hall

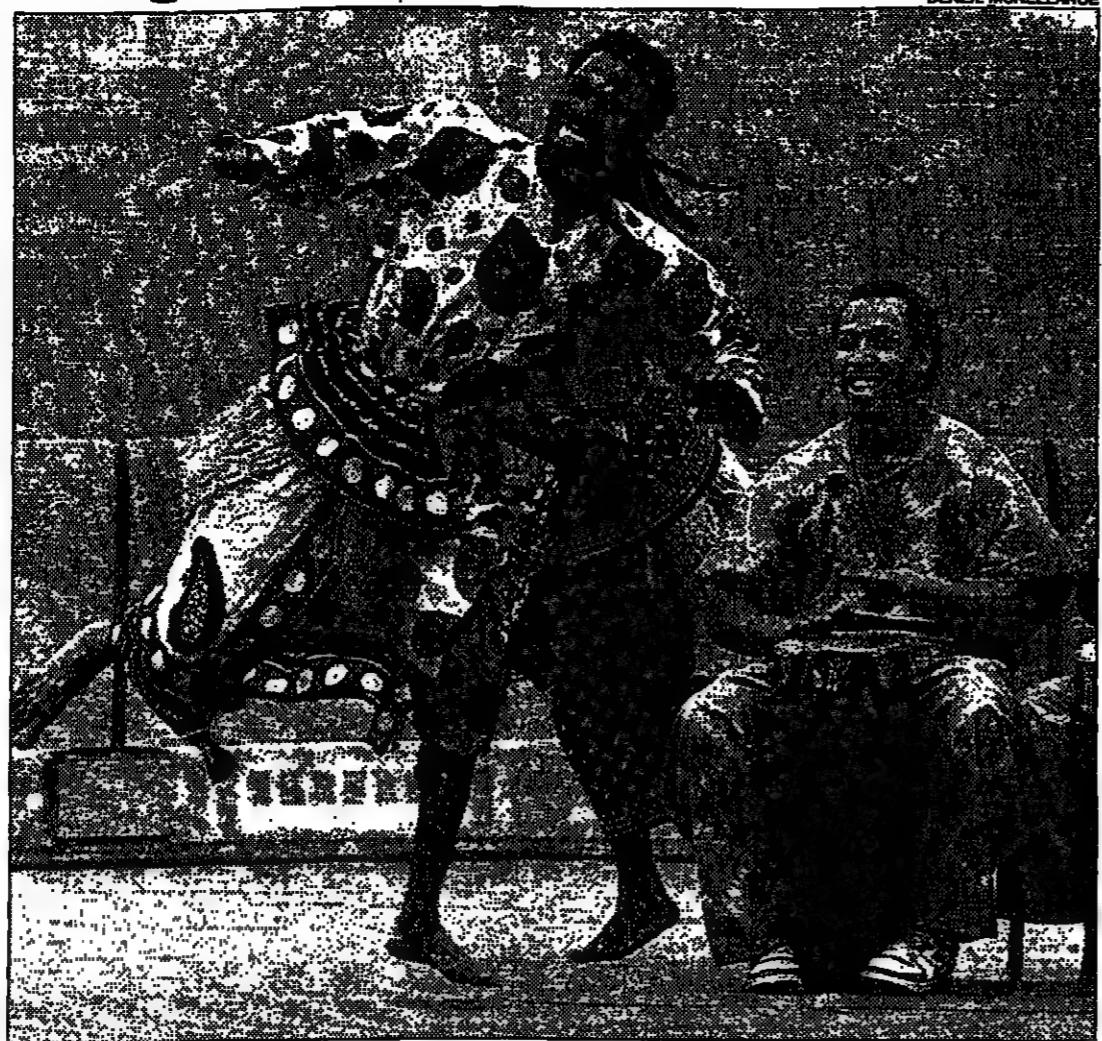
TO START a company to perform dances from, say, Scotland and Sicily, Norway and Hungary, Spain and Poland, is hard to imagine. So the existence of Adzido as a London-based Pan-African dance ensemble pre-supposes a degree of unity that probably exists more in cultural aspiration than political reality.

The members of the troupe are predominantly British born or from Ghana, with a few from the Caribbean or other African countries. Their repertoire reflects a wider spread of origins, with dances from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo and Uganda.

The new programme, *Under African Skies*, has found a much better way of presenting these than the company's earlier attempts at inventing a story to account for them. Poems by Odia Ofeimun have been worked into linking sections spoken and acted by the dancers, with help from a theatrical director, Graham Devin.

Simply by the ordering of these, a kind of theme does develop: consciousness of origins, pride in tradition, a sense of oppression and determination to be free. This builds, unobtrusively but convincingly, to a statement that unifies the dancers and had the audience at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on its feet cheering.

Some of the dances suggest that minimalism must be an African invention. The range of movements is usually small, the effect coming from the subtle variations of rhythm in the body and especially the arms. Exceptions



Members of the Adzido dance ensemble preparing for their appearances at Queen Elizabeth Hall

are Isukuti, a dance from Kenya, in which they hop like big, clumsy birds, and a number (the Simizimba from Tanzania, if memory serves) in which the men jump straight up and down.

The accompaniment is per-

formed on an amazing variety of drums, from low, wide and flat to others almost tall enough to fit the musicians. These are played with such energy that two chairs fell from the stand when I was there: one empty, the other occu-

pied by a fortunately nimble player who landed on his feet.

The South Bank performances were part of a tour which brings the company to Sadler's Wells in October.

JOHN PERCIVAL

CONCERT

RPO/Simon Cheltenham Town Hall

IF MUSIC were literature, then Paul Patterson's Symphony, introduced at the Cheltenham Festival's closing concert, would have to be described as a bestseller: a thing devised to grip, shock and please, according to conventional canons of how these results are to be achieved. As such, the appreciative applause was far more pertinent to it than any criticism that it fails to say anything that has not already been said. In the world of the bestseller, formal imitation is not a flaw but a necessity, and similarly, Patterson's Symphony, if it is to work, has to keep reassuring the audience that they are on familiar ground.

It is kinder not to go through all the newcomers in detail, but mention must be made of the ignominy of having the page, Peter, played by a coy little girl. Ashton's simple, swift-moving and direct choreography still makes its points strongly enough, but an early priority for the incoming director, Ian Nagy, must be to pull the company up again to its recent strength.

JOHN PERCIVAL

Jennens supplied Handel with the libretto for his oratorio, *Belsazar*, he was also providing a parable for his own times. As modern scholars have discovered, Jennens was a closet Jacobite, and his libretto suggests covert parallels between the Jews captive in Babylon and the Jacobites repressed in England.

Indeed, the oratorio begins with a remarkable accompanied recitative, 'Vain, fluctuating state of human empire', that describes the whole cycle of empire and ruin in graphic terms. Unfortunately for Jennens, the Young Pretender turned out to be no latter-day scourge of Babylon, while the Hanoverian succession has proved rather more durable than the house of Nebuchadnezzar.

Handel was a German Protestant; the last person to be expected to set this text. But he was also a master dramatist, and he saw the potential for, astonish-

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Similarly, after Belsazar's defeat, there are no shouts of conventional rejoicing (a weakness of Walton's oratorio) but a gracious and beautiful duet of reconciliation. Even Handel's treatment of the 'writing on the wall' episode is unexpected: no apocalyptic outburst here, merely a chromatic succession of detached violin notes, tapping out Belsazar's fate like a death

sentence conveyed in Morse code. Trevor Pinock never quite achieved the dramatic excitement the work demands, partly because his speeds were slightly too slow. But his English Concert and Choir performed with model clarity.

Anthony Rolfe Johnson sang a credible Belsazar — just the right hint of puffed-up swagger — and James Bowman brought considerable counter-tenor power to bear as the Jewish leader, Daniel. Aileen Auger did not give enough urgency to that crucial opening solo, but her top register was a pearly delight. David Wilson-Johnson plunged superbly through the Gothic bass runs of 'Behold the monstrous human beast', and Catherine Robbin was as characterful as the Persian prince Cyrus, though straining to deliver the necessary contralto power in low passages.

RICHARD MORRISON

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Wentz supplied Handel with the

libretto for his oratorio, *Belsazar*,

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BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Paul Burden 8.55 Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather
9.05 But First This... begins with Belle and Sebastian (r) 9.25 Why Don't You...? (r)
10.00 News and weather followed by The Jetsons 10.30 Playdays
10.55 Five to Eleven. How 3,000 people around the world made a tapestry about the Quaker movement
11.00 News and weather followed by Peacock Kingdom: Gorilla. A new American drama series starring Lindsay Wagner and Tom Wopat about a widow who becomes director of the Los Angeles County Zoo
12.00 News and weather followed by The Garden Party. Debbie Greenwood looks at the O2, we look at Mally War's garden and Robert Kynoch-Silk takes Carla Lane to lunch 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) 1.50 Biking Boy. Tony Butler continues his bicycle journey through the Midlands, today reaching Shropshire (r)
2.20 Film: Legend of the Lost (1957) starring John Wayne, Sophia Loren and Rosemary Forsyth, plodding tale of treasure seekers in the Sahara also competing for a beautiful slave girl. Directed by Henry Hathaway

BBC 2

7.10 Open University: Nitrate in Drinking Water. Ends at 7.35
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster
9.00 Mastermind 1986 (r)
9.30 Film: Oh! Mr Porter (1938, b/w) starring Will Hay as a bungling railway porter posted to a remote station in the Irish countryside, causing chaos with his two equally incompetent assistants. Classic British comedy including a spectacular locomotive chase. Directed by Marcel Varnel
10.50 Film: Saps at Sea (1940, b/w) starring Laurel and Hardy. Our two heroes, while taking a sea voyage to convalesce, find themselves cast adrift in a small boat with an escaped killer. Directed by Gordon Douglas
11.45 England: The Gentle Sex. Thrives press photographs of women's sporting achievements (r)
11.50 Catwalk. A 40 Minutes profile of former model Celia Hammond, now dedicated to rescuing stray cats from wastebins and alleys with the aim of reducing the number of animals destroyed, said to be 4,000 per day. To help achieve this she is setting up low-cost clinics for spaying and neutering (r). (Ceefax)
12.30 On Gods and Men: Mexico and the Mexican Indian. A look at the centuries-old traditions of the Mexican Indians and their contribution to the culture of central American civilisations. Narrated by Ian Holm (r)
1.00 Under Sail. The Cutty Sark Tally Ships race from Margate to Zeebrugge, filmed from the deck of the square-rigger Royalist (r)
1.20 Charlie Chalk. Animation (r) 1.35 Sign Extra. Singer/songwriter Don Sullivan talks about emigrant life. Adapted for the hearing impaired (r)
2.00 News and weather followed by The Black Satanic. Parody episode of 7s World about Us. In which

4.05 Cartoon 4.10 The All New Popeye Show 4.35 The Really Wild Show. Winner of the 1989 Bafta award for the best children's educational programme. Featured this week are American police uniforms, a synthesiser, a 25-hour alarm clock and a Buick. (r)
5.00 Newsround 5.05 Come Midnight Monday. Episode five of the seven-part Australian children's drama serial (r)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax). Northern Ireland: Sportsweek 5.40 Inside Ulster 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Andrew Harvey and Michael Weatherhead 6.30 Regional news programme Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Last of the Summer Wine: The Kiss and Mavis Posit. Adventures of the incorrigible old codgers. Clegg is alarmed when Edie and Nora start to take more than a passing interest in him, especially when he learns that they have a friend in need of a husband (r). (Ceefax)
7.30 Endemol. Another close of Cockney angel (Ceefax)
8.00 The Big Book of Birds: Agrees nouveau niche versus landlady's grumpy crow. Peter Bowles and Penelope Keith. This week Audrey turns the visit of a rare bird to her advantage (r). (Ceefax)
8.30 Carnival Street: Netta's Story. Series following the lives of five black families in the month leading up to the Notting Hill carnival. Mother, minicab driver, poet, singer and shop-owner, Netta is under a lot of pressure, not only because of her many

responsibilities but also because of the tension in the All Star Road community, with its heavy police presence. One word out of place, or fool wrong, can result in jail (Ceefax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News. With Melvyn Lewis. Regional news and weather
9.30 Film: Know My First Name is Steven (1989) starring Cindy Pickett, Corin Nemec and John Ashton. First of a two-part made-for-television film (part two tomorrow) about a true, and truly horrifying, story - the abduction, imprisonment and psychological and sexual abuse, for seven years, of a seven-year-old California boy, Steven Stayner. On his way home on December 4, 1972, Steven was taken by his parents and his accomplice, Michael. They kept the boy imprisoned for seven years in an old log cabin deep in the forests, and systematically abused him night and day. The film, not for the faint-hearted, tells his extraordinary story and that of his parents, who not only had to cope with losing their son but also with the suspicion that eventually fell on them. Perhaps the most poignant fact about this strong drama is that the victim himself makes a short appearance in it, playing a police officer. Directed by Larry Elikann. (Ceefax)
11.05 Judy, Frank and Dene. A must for fans of Garland. "One Blue Eyed" and Dene Martin. The three star in a showpiece episode from Garland's television series of the 1960s
11.55 Weather

"explores" Yemi Alibalo, Bloke Modares, Horace Owole, Mordet Jordine and Douglas Bottong set out to discover the centre of Britain (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 News and weather followed by Westminster Live 3.50 News, regional news and weather
4.00 Film: Anastasia - The Mystery of Anna (1985). Amy Irving, Rex Harrison, Oliva de Havilland, Claire Bloom, Omer Sharif and Jan Niklas star in the first part of a polished and strongly acted made-for-television film, which concludes tomorrow. Two years after the execution of the Tsar and his family, Anastasia, his youngest daughter, turns up in Berlin. Directed by Marvin Chomsky. (Ceefax)
5.30 Gardeners' World includes a visit to a bonsai nursery (r)
6.00 Film: Blackbeard the Pirate (1952) Swashbuckling yarn with Robert Newton overacting delightfully as the notorious pirate pursued by the king's envoy, whose intended bride (the luscious Linda Darnell) he has seized for a huge ransom. Directed by Raoul Walsh. Wales: More Farrell's Travels 6.30 Eyes on the Prize
7.35 Billko (b/w). Vintage comedy starring Phil Silvers (r). Wales: 7.30 The Royal Welsh 1930
8.00 Hear-Say. Discussion on the possibilities of genetic engineering, with leading US geneticist Dr Donella Wilson, Olympic gold medallist Tessa Sanderson and a studio audience
8.30 Wildlife Showcase: Jungle Spirits of Madagascar. First of a new series from wildlife filmmakers around the world. The film, made by a West German crew, looks at the varied species of lemur that have evolved on the island of Madagascar. (Ceefax)
9.00 Alexei Sayle's Stuff. A crazed look at cabinet reshuffles, public schools, uprightness and cookery programmes (r)

9.30 Present Imperfect: Great Expectations. • Peter Gordon's documentary parallels the great tales of 1989 history with the most modest nippies of family life. In doing so, no highly significant point is made beyond the fact that, for the parties concerned, producing a baby is as momentous an event as the stormy-seas meeting between Buss and Gorbachev, the flight of East Germans into Hungary, and the massacre in Tiananmen Square.



Historic event: Celia Hammond's first born (9.30pm)

The big headlines are being made while three babies are waiting to be born in the same London hospital. One smaller headline tells of the Hampshire fruit farmer who fought off the strawberry-plucking crows with a Soviet tank. From this, you will infer that *Great Expectations* does not bang out its message on a big drum. (Ceefax)
10.30 Newsnight
11.15 Archape. The wild stunts of the French alternative circus, featuring motorcycles, chameaux and wire-trap trapezes, recorded at last year's Edinburgh International Festival (r)
12.00 Open University: Social Problems and Social Welfare. Ends at 12.30am

ITV LONDON

6.00 Home and Away (r)
6.30 Thames News and weather
7.00 Emmerdale. Topical drama set in a Yorkshire farming community. (Oracle)
7.30 Night Duty. The third in the series about people who work night shifts
8.00 The Bill: Angles. The strengthened and tightly directed police drama continues to set an amazingly high standard. Motives comes under scrutiny - does the force have a strong sense of justice or just a strong sense of finance? (Oracle)
8.30 The Upper Hand. Uninspired British version of American comedy series *Who's the Boss?*



Tying the knot: wedding agency staff (5.00pm)

9.00 Made in Heaven: Best of Enemies. • Most of, but mercifully not all, the television sit-coms of any discernible quality have now packed their bags and gone off on their summer holidays. Granada Television's new series about a wedding agency is one of the stay-at-homes, and we should gratefully make the most of it for the next four weeks. *Best of Enemies*, tonight's curfum-raver, was penned by Alan Cleves. He has ingeniously stitched together two situations, one of them rather touching - an elderly chap (Kenneth Connor) wants to recreate a 1941 ambulance so that he

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Noah's Ark. Forests that grow under the sea (r)
6.00 Business Daily
6.30 The Channel Four Daily
9.25 The Art of Landscape. Footage of breathtaking scenery set to a soothing musical background.
11.00 As It Happens. Andy Kershaw and his intrepid camera crew are still behind bars, filming a typical day in the life of the staff and inmates of Wormwood Scrubs
12.00 The Parliament Programme. Neil Kinnock takes a sideways look at the past 12 months in Parliament
12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service
1.00 Sesame Street. American pre-school educational series (r)
2.00 Film: Pans after Dark (1943, b/w) starring Philip Dorn, Brenda Marshall and George Sanders. Efficient wartime thriller about a Persian doctor, head of the local resistance cell, and his friends and colleagues whose differing views on how the Nazi occupation forces should be treated lead to conflict. Directed in Hollywood by expatriate Frenchmen Léonide Moguy
3.35 Barnaby: Father Dear Father. Cartoon
3.40 The Oprah Winfrey Show: True Romance. Couples share their romantic memories.
4.30 Countdown presented by Richard Whiteley

5.00 The Lone Ranger (b/w). Vintage western adventure

5.30 Athletics: The English Schools Milk Track and Field Championships from the Moorside Athletics Track in Derby

6.00 Sumo. Japanese wrestling (r) • 6.30 Mork and Mindy. Comedy series 7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zebadiah Badawi

7.50 Comment followed by Weather

8.00 Citizen 2000. Continuing the series of documentaries about the lives of children born in 1982. Matthew, the son of two school teachers from Liverpool, is seen here on his first day at junior school. (Oracle)

8.30 Check Out investigates automatic cash dispensers and the new system by which GPs can be chosen for the list of services they have available

9.00 A Walk of a Mammal. Dermot Murnaghan's investigative documentary will be milk and honey for statisticans and scandal lovers

alike. It was President Bush who used the metaphor of the mammoth mammal to describe the recent total collapse of America's savings and loans industry (the equivalent of our building societies) whose investments were underwritten by the federal government. Taxpayers now have to pick up the bill for \$500 billion - four times what the Vietnam war cost the Americans - and charges of fraud and embezzlement have been brought against several heads of savings and loan companies, including one who is accused of using

company cash to purchase a \$2 million beach house and a luxury yacht. The political dimension to the scandal is not inconsiderable. It is alleged that a lot of the savings and loans cash ended up in party funds, and trickled into Capitol Hill pockets. 10.15 Pantomime: Carl Block 4 12.30am Room for Change. Decorating series (r)

1.00 Video View

1.30 Kojak: By Silence Betrayed. When Kojak attempts to solve a murder on the docks he is hampered by the stevedores' code of silence

2.30 Donahue. Phil Donahue talks to gay and lesbian couples on their attitudes to love

3.30 Quiz Night

4.00 Entertainment UK

5.00 ITN Morning News with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

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Beauty behind bars: the winner of a beauty queen contest parades inside the grounds of a Soviet women's penal colony at Chelyabinsk in the Urals. The contestants were all detainees in dresses made from pieces of material available in the prison. The unnamed winner was crowned by a uniformed officer from the Ministry of Internal Affairs

Labour offers 100% rebates

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PEOPLE will be able to qualify for 100 per cent rebates and will not be so heavily penalised for their savings under Labour's new property tax approved yesterday by the shadow cabinet.

Neil Kinnock last night hailed Labour's plan for a modernised version of the rating system as more just, simpler to understand and cheaper to collect than the community charge. He said the combination of its new "fair rates" scheme with the introduction of annual elections for local councils would increase public accountability. The scheme was a good deal for local payers and local authorities, he said.

The scheme promises lower bills than the majority pay under the poll tax. It would cost much less than the poll tax to administer, and the evasion rate would be reduced.

More details of the extended rebates scheme, by which Labour says it will make its property tax reflect

Bomber programme in doubt

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE future of America's revolutionary B-2 "Stealth" bomber was in serious doubt yesterday as Les Aspin, chairman of the House armed services committee, abandoned support for the \$63 billion programme, calling for further procurement of the most expensive ever warplane to be limited.

Mr Aspin played a major role in the compromise that kept the B-2 alive last year. His change of heart virtually ensures that the House will vote to endprocurement, after a decade of work that has already cost almost \$30 billion. He said he would support funding only for the research and development needed to complete the 15 B-2s already in production.

Even before his announcement yesterday there were 210 congressmen firmly opposed to buying any more of the planes, just eight short of the 218 needed for an outright majority. "If the chairman of the House armed services committee says it, then the game is pretty much over," said one committee aide.

The B-2 still has substantial support in the Senate, whose own armed service com-

mittee, chaired by Senator Sam Nunn, last week approved the administration's request to buy two more of the \$840 million planes in 1991.

Provided the full Senate votes to endorse its committee's recommendation in the next two weeks, a bruising battle can be expected when the two houses of Congress try to reconcile their separate defence bills. Northrop, the B-2's manufacturer, has been careful to place sub-contracts in virtually every state and can be expected to intensify its lobbying efforts.

The White House yesterday reiterated its support for the B-2, which was to form the third leg of the US nuclear "triad" into the early 21st century with ground- and sea-launched missiles.

The Air Force originally wanted 132 of the bat-winged bombers, at a cost of \$440 million each, but defence secretary Richard Cheney severely scaled back that programme in April in light of the Cold War's end, severe budgetary restraints and wavering congressional support. The effect of the retrenchment was to push up

the unit cost of each plane to well over \$300 million while failing to aly congressional support.

In his speech to the House yesterday Mr Aspin noted that the cost of each B-2 had almost doubled in four years. He said that while early tests were promising, the plane's radar-evading capabilities were not yet proven. Moreover, the air force had not made a convincing strategic case for the bomber. "Terminating the B-2 may be the first step in moving toward fiscal reality," Mr Aspin said.

Fifteen B-2s are already being built and should be well over \$300 million while failing to aly congressional support.

Mr Aspin's committee has begun work on a House defence bill which will seek to cut \$24 billion from the \$307 billion the administration wants for defence next year. The Senate Armed Services committee voted to cut \$18 billion.

John Cummings (Lab, Easington), in his motion "Dress in the Chamber", notes the "rapid conversion" from red to blue of Tory MPs. Roland Boyes (Lab, Houghton and Washington) wants a "photographer" to take high quality pictures of MPs' — which Graham Allen's amendment thinks should be "of head and shoulders only".

Dave Pritchard (Lab, Bristol South) enjoyed *Beau* and "warmly congratulates the director. Disabled people, however, had no fun at the Wet Wet Wet concert because (says Coventry's John Hughes' motion) they "paid £12 to watch thousands of backsides obscuring the group". *More right down inside* please.

A motion from Harry Greenaway (C, Ealing) concerns "Eating of Dogs", but Terese Gorman (C,

Matthew Parris

Mind boggles at cost of chit-chat

DO YOU ever travel on a bus? And do you overhear the conversations? Sport, fashion, gossip... all human life is there, and opinion is free.

MPs indulge in bus-chat, too. But not on buses. They table "motions", which are then printed on the order paper. This talk, however, is far from free. William Powell (C, Corby) recently asked the cost of all the motions tabled since 1987 by Graham Allen (Lab, Nottingham North) about changing procedures, committees and facilities.

"The total cost to public funds of printing and publishing" Mr Allen's thoughts, said the Leader of the House in a recent written answer, "... is estimated as £55,000. The volume of paper consumed was about 300,000 sheets of A4 paper."

Nor is Mr Allen alone on the bus. Ian McCartney (Lab, Macclesfield) has "warmly congratulated" the Hull Kingston Rovers on a good season. The motion from James Wallace (Lab-Dem, Orkney & Shetland) notes

"with disappointment Scotland's early departure from the World Cup" but, is pleased they behaved so well.

This prompted for Ashton (Lab, Bassetlaw) to remind us that the Scots should appoint Jack Charlton, so that the Scots team can become "the English third eleven, just like Ireland has become the second". *Hold very tight please* — *TING! TING!*

John Cummings (Lab, Easington), in his motion "Dress in the Chamber", notes the "rapid conversion" from red to blue of Tory

MPs. Roland Boyes (Lab, Houghton and Washington) wants a "photographer" to take high quality pictures of MPs' — which Graham Allen's amendment thinks should be "of head and shoulders only".

Dave Pritchard (Lab, Bristol South) enjoyed *Beau* and "warmly congratulates the director. Disabled people, however, had no fun at the Wet Wet Wet concert because (says Coventry's John Hughes' motion) they "paid £12 to watch thousands of backsides obscuring the group". *More right down inside* please.

A motion from Harry Greenaway (C, Ealing) concerns "Eating of Dogs", but Terese Gorman (C,

Matthew Parris

Reshuffle boost for arts

Continued from page 1

addition of Lord Birtlesford, formerly a foreign office minister, as an additional Minister of State.

Robert Atkins was moved from transport to environment at the same rank, taking over as sports minister from Colin Moynihan. Government sources emphasised that

Billerbeck) interrupts to tell us she is having none of the idea that we should change our summer time to suit those continents. However, ...

Sorry, no more room inside another along soon...

The mind boggles, as Richard Luce, the civil service minister, put it, with feeling yesterday. He had been confronted by Labour's Dennis Skinner, on the rampage against Mr Charles Powell, the PM's private secretary. Luce asked Skinner whether, just for a moment, he could imagine himself as a civil servant.

Our minds boggled too. It was wholly wrong, Luce confirmed, for Skinner to attack a civil servant who cannot defend himself. Come back, Clive Ponting. Sarah Tisdall, all is forgiven.

Mindful of Mr Luce's ruling, Labour's Dr John Marek (Twickenham) decided to try attacking a minister instead. Chris Chope (C, Southwark, Ilford) was "undermining morale" in the Crown Agents.

No, sorry Dr Marek. You shouldn't attack ministers either. Mr Luce, soaring to Chope's defence.

Mindful of nobody's rising, Mrs Gorman attacked civil servants and ministers and defended chickens. A million of these birds, she said, had died needless because *Chicken* (C, Derry) "should strongly condemned the recent cannibalism

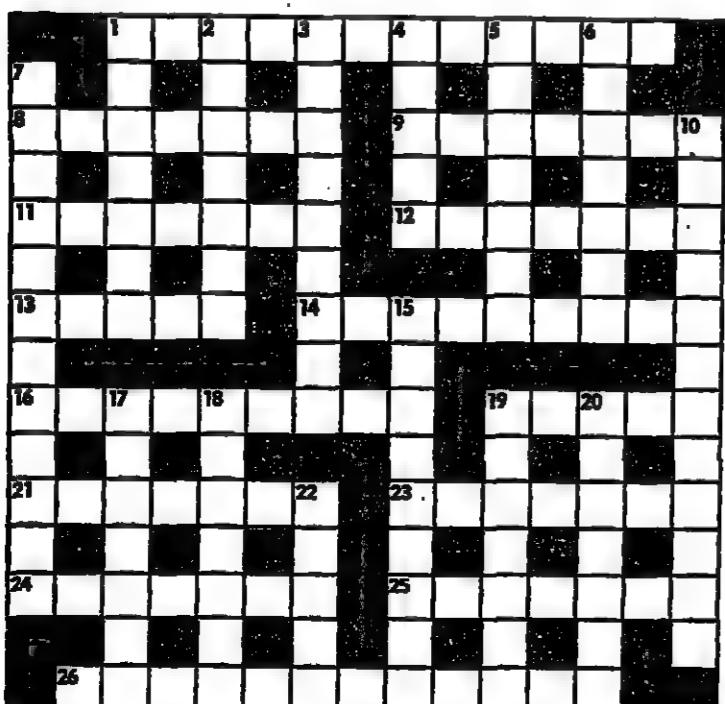
— on red meat, the source from her civil servants. "And I've written a book about it," she explained. "It's called *Chickenise*."

Peter Mr Luce faced a dilemma. He could not defend Mr Marek, nor his adviser without an implied postponement attack on a fellow-decoration. Wisely, he declined to comment. It is inspiring to see a lady of Mrs Gorman's courage and wisdom fighting to clear the names of a generation of dead-broilers, perhaps when Santa Teresa of the *Chicken* Co-operative departs this life she will be winged skyward in a feathered chariot drawn by hosts of golden chickens and arrive on the other side to a great cock-a-hoo-dee-doo from the heavenly roosters and the cheeping of a myriad young things of day-old cherubim.

A motion from Harry Greenaway (C, Ealing) concerns "Eating of Dogs", but Terese Gorman (C,

Matthew Parris

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,354



WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

GAYTRY
a. An unsuccessful homosexual
b. A fruit basket
c. Gaiety

CRAME
a. A market booth
b. A fish basket
c. A schoolboy's crib

POSTLIMINY
a. Retrospection
b. Exile's rights
c. A dried out marsh

DOORCHEEK
a. A door-post
b. Parting insolence
c. The bog pipper

Answers on page 20

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks
C, London (within N & S Circs) 731
M-ways/roads M4-M1 732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T 733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23 734
M-ways/roads M25 M4 735
M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks

Motorways 737
West Country 738
Wales 739
Midlands 740
East Anglia 741
North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off-peak).

22 'Tis required to stay awake (3,2)

The clue to 18 Across in Puzzle No 18,353 was missing in some editions of yesterday's paper. We apologise for the omission. The clue was "Bridge as others shower (3)".

Solutions to Puzzle No 18,353

ALTERCATIONS
M E I S O N O M G
M A R A C H U N T N O S E
U H R Y E E T N
L A Y O U T C R O T C H E T
L M V B L
A T H E N S C A R A P A C E
E E D O N L
R E S T R A I N F A L L E M
I I V R A O
P E T I T I O N S C H E A M
P A D S R D H A A
L I N E N C H O R I S T I C
E T B E W B E T C
W E D D I N G M A R C H

ACROSS
1 Church's artful aid, for example (12).
2 Napoleon was their leader (7).
9 Passionate although not evil disposition (7).
11 Uter manifestation starts on the back bone (7).
12 Again let free (7).
13 Drink makes policemen sound hesitant (5).
14 Hunter, perhaps, has close call with firearm (9).
16 I take part in the naval manoeuvre in a big ship (9).
19 Fashionable society trade centre (5).

DOWN
1 Kindless ham is in need of favouring (7).
2 Student quarter in Kings (7).
3 International trial marriage (4,5).
4 Test, for instance, the overdrive revs a bit (5).
5 Unity woman novelist, without direction (7).
6 Had too much to make speech about wartime celebration (7).
7 Accuse oriental rebel falsely in famous case (5,7).
10 Characters in Engels' text he disguised as ladies (3,6,3).
15 Having changed name, I'm Paul, in charge of the town (9).
17 Having a brush against university side before long (7).
18 An alternative to this place in Westminster (7).
19 Treacherous person toyed with Pharaoh (7).
20 Superseded by contract sale (7).
22 'Tis required to stay awake (3,2).

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P A D S R D H A A
L I N E N C H O R I S T I C
E T B E W B E T C
W E D D I N G M A R C H

Concise Crossword, page 15

WEATHER

It will be fine and dry almost everywhere, with good sunny spells in most parts. Coastal areas, particularly in the east, will be rather more cloudy. It will also become more cloudy in north-west Scotland, perhaps with little light rain in places. Parts of the south will again be very warm, though sea breezes will keep coasts cooler than inland. Outlook: dry and settled with sunny spells; becoming warmer in most areas.

ABROAD

TODAY: Thunder, d-dazzle, fog, sun, snow, rain.

MONDAY: Thunder, d-dazzle, fog, sun, snow, rain.

TUESDAY: Thunder, d-dazzle, fog, sun, snow, rain.

WEDNESDAY: Thunder, d-dazzle, fog, sun, snow, rain.

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THURSDAY:

BUSINESS

TUESDAY JULY 24 1990

نماذج المعلم

 Executive Editor
 David Brewerton

Judge in warning on share 'punting'

RECENT legislation overturns a 150-year-old law prohibiting stock market betting agencies from suing clients for unpaid debts, a High Court judge has ruled. Deputy Judge Tyrrell, QC, called for action to prevent young people falling into debt by 'punting' on the stock market.

Judge Tyrrell's comments followed an action where City Index Limited, the betting agency, sued a financial consultant for nearly £35,000 in lost wagers. The court heard how Spencer Leslie, aged 23, had fallen into debt within a year of opening a betting account with the agency.

Mr Leslie's lawyer, Michael Beckman, QC, argued that betting debts of this type were not enforceable by law. But the judge said changes section 63 of the Financial Services Act 1986 made it possible for betting agencies to sue.

Bulbough dips

Higher demand from super-markets for chilled food storage equipment before tighter legislation is enforced because of food scares, tripled profits within Bulbough's refrigeration and store fitting division. However, group pre-tax profits fell from £1.2 million to £1.6 million in the half year to end-April, on lower office equipment profits. The interim dividend is held at 1.75p a share. *Tempus*, page 25

Berkeley ahead

Berkeley Govett, the international asset management firm, lifted pre-tax profits by 18 per cent to \$22.7 million in the half year to end-June. The interim dividend is 7c (6c). London Pacific made a first-time contribution of \$4.2 million. *Tempus*, page 25

Arrow setback

Black Arrow, the contract office designers, has suffered its first profits setback in a decade. Pre-tax profits fell in the year to end-March from £4.61 million to £3.75 million, on turnover of £26.2 million (£26.9 million). A higher final of 3.2p makes 4.2p (3.75p) for the year. *Tempus*, page 25

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8215 (+0.0080)
W German mark
2.9645 (-0.0141)
Exchange Index
93.8 (-0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1867.1 (-31.0)
FT-SE 100
2359.7 (-40.4)
New York Dow Jones
2877.48 (-83.66)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avg
31894.79 (-526.73)
Closing Prices ... Page 27

Major indices and
major changes Page 26

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 15%
3-month interbank 14^{1/2}-14^{1/2}%
3-month eligible bills 14^{1/2}-14^{1/2}%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 7^{1/2}%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.5-7.48%
30-year bonds 102^{1/2}-102^{1/2}**

CURRENCIES

London: £ 1.8215
\$ 2.9645
DM 1.6277
F 1.4600
E 1.4600
Yen 148.46
Index 93.8
ECU 0.564699
SDR £0.740726
ECU 1.430503

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$361.80 pm \$368.10
close \$368.00-\$368.50 (E201.75-
222.25)
New York
Comex \$367.70-\$368.20*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Aug) ... \$18.90/bbl (\$18.25)

* Denotes latest trading price

TURIST RATES

Australia \$ 2.43
Austria Sch 2.27
Belgium Ft 20.50
Canada \$ 1.25
Denmark Kr 11.84
Finland Dr 12.29
France Fr 10.50
Germany DM 3.09
Greece Dr 297
Hong Kong \$ 14.73
Iceland Kr 1.08
Italy Lira 2275
Japan Yen 285
Korea W 11.22
Norway Kr 11.92
Portugal Esc 265.75
South Africa R 17.50
Spain Pta 10.60
Sweden Kr 11.20
Switzerland Fr 2.64
Turkey Lira 5025
USA \$ 1.90
Yugoslavia Dr 25.50

Rates for major currencies only as supplied by London P.M. Dilemma rates apply to transfers cheques.
Retail Price Index: 128.7 (June)

★ ★ ★ ★

World shares drop as rate hopes fade

By OUR CITY STAFF

Share prices in Tokyo, New York, London and continental exchanges fell sharply in succession yesterday. The instant falls came after rapid rises over the past few weeks on the prospect of lower interest rates and reflected fading hopes of further cuts.

The most dramatic move came on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones index fell 105 points, or 3.5 per cent, soon after opening. It went on to recover some of its losses. By mid-afternoon the index was 71.78 points down at 2,889.36.

The index had risen nearly 160 points over three weeks and reached a peak of 2,999.75 last week, but the failure to break the psychological 3,000 mark led to lower futures prices being marked in new contracts at the end of last week and the fall, coupled with lower bond prices, triggered statistically based programme sales.

In London, where the FT-SE 100 share index had gained 88 points or 3.8 per cent in ten days, but peaked a week ago, Stock Exchange market-makers responded quickly to the early fall on Wall Street in the last hour of trading. They marked prices savagely lower in after-hours trading in the hope of deterring would-be sellers. In the space of less

Mr Michael Metz, from Oppenheimer and Company,

Comment, page 25
Markets, page 26

Trade gap widens in line with expectations

By ROONEY LORD, ECONOMICS EDITOR

BRITAIN'S balance of payments deteriorated slightly last month with the current account deficit widening from £1.33 billion to £1.36 billion.

In the first six months of the year the deficit has totalled just over £9 billion compared with the Treasury's budget forecast for the year of £15 billion. But officials said yesterday they expected the slowdown in the economy would help the current account to improve in the second half of the year.

The outturn for June was in line with market expectations and there was little reaction in sterling or shares which only began to move later after Wall Street dropped. Analysts said the figures confirmed previous trends.

Both exports and imports were lower last month with exports falling from £8.89 billion to £8.64 billion and imports from £10.42 billion to £10.2 billion. The trade deficit rose slightly from £1.53 billion

to £1.56 billion leaving a current account deficit, after the estimated surplus on invisible trade of £200 million, of £1.36 billion. The trend in exports continued to rise faster than that of imports for the tenth consecutive month.

Excluding oil and erratic items, the volume of exports in the second quarter of the year was 4 per cent higher than in the previous quarter and 12 per cent higher than in the same period last year. Imports on the same basis were 2% per cent higher than in the previous quarter and 3% per cent up on a year earlier.

Within these totals, exports of consumer goods rose fastest at 10 per cent over the quarter and 29 per cent over the year. Exports of cars were up 6% per cent and capital goods 5% per cent on the previous quarter.

Imports of consumer goods also continued to rise rapidly at 8% per cent on the quarter and 11 per cent over the year. Imports of cars, half of which

are bought by companies, fell 7 per cent.

The main influences on the current account during the rest of the year are expected to be the slowdown in the economy which will help to curb imports and the recent rise in sterling which could handicap exports.

Nigel Richardson, of Warburgs, said: "Changes in activity tend to come through sooner than exchange rate changes so we should see some improvement in the deficit during the rest of the year."

• Cyclical indicators of the economy produced by the Central Statistical Office have all been falling in recent months. Falling share prices and higher interest rates have contributed to a fall in the longer leading index which has declined in May from 94.9 to 94.5.

The shorter leading index has been little changed, with the fall in new car registrations and consumer credit partly offset by upward movements in the Confederation of British Industry's survey of new orders trends.

• High interest rates are discouraging homebuyers but savers placed an extra £100 million in building society accounts last month.

Net receipts rose from £703 million in May to £809 million in June, reflecting higher savings rates and lack of investor confidence in the stock market.

Gross mortgage advances fell by £19 million to £3.68 billion as the high level of mortgage rates continued to depress the market.

The Department of Energy is unable to indicate that gearing figure company by company. It has published its estimate as at March 31 1990, but Whitehall sources stress these are atypical and distorted by special factors.

By next March the two most heavily geared are likely to be Eastern and Norweb, which covers the northwest. At the other end of the scale are two companies which have seen much of their supply business disappear in the run-up to the float, Manweb, covering Merseyside and north Wales, and South Wales Electricity.

The National Grid is owned jointly by all 12, is being burdened with £901 million of debt, implying gearing of 90 per cent last March, because of the stability of its business.

Each to the government, implying gearing between 30 per cent and 45 per cent next March, at the end of the current financial year.

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RHM backs out of cereals market with £97m sell-off

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

RANKS Hovis McDougall has ended an unsuccessful foray into the competitive breakfast cereals market by selling its cereals division, maker of Shredded Wheat, to Cereal Partners, controlled jointly by Nestle of Switzerland and General Mills of America.

The deal is worth £97 million to RHM, bringing asset sales this year to nearly £350 million and eliminating borrowings. RHM sold its Cerebos Far East grocery business to Suntory for £182 million and a bulk chocolate arm to Klaus Jacobs for £67 million.

The terms reflect Cereal Partners' desire for a strong manufacturing base given that RHM is believed to have lost market share. RHM paid £80 million to RJR-Nabisco in November 1988 for Shredded Wheat, Shreddies and Team Wheat Flakes.

The division, formed last year, also includes an own-label cereal business and Force wheat flakes, one of the most venerable brands in Britain. The three made a combined operating profit of £6.6 million in the year to September 1989.

Nestle moved into the breakfast cereals business in

the mid-Eighties after Kellogg had expanded the market on the Continent. Cereal Partners, formed last year, said the potential for sales overseas should bring expansion for the former RHM business.

Anglo Group, the vehicle controlled by companies linked to Sir James Goldsmith and Lord Rothschild, confirmed it would offer outside shareholders the option of converting their Anglo shares into RHM shares on the basis of a net asset value of only 175.8p per Anglo share, counting RHM at a closing price on Friday of 340p.

When Anglo shares were suspended last month, the share price was calculated at 211p, but RHM shares have since fallen. The shares offered, accounting for 2.5 per cent of RHM if all holders took the option, will be provided by the Goldsmith and Rothschild companies from their stakes in Summingle, the private company that owns 29.9 per cent of RHM.

The offer will not affect Anglo's 35 per cent stake in Summingle, which is now its main asset. Anglo will offer to buy the RHM shares from its former shareholders at 340p.

Nestle moved into the

breakfast cereals business in



No alarms: Roger Fletcher, managing director of Menvier-Swain, announcing the group's results yesterday

Menvier-Swain increases payout

MENVIER-SWAIN Group, the USM-quoted manufacturer of emergency lighting and fire alarms, increased pre-tax profits 53 per cent to £5.47 million for the year to end-April.

Turnover rose 55 per cent to £40.3 million. The total dividend has been raised 31 per cent to 6.8p a share, with a

final payout of 4.7p. Earnings per share were 26.9p, up 28 per cent. Menvier shares rose 12p to 365p.

Charles Swain, chairman, said a major extension at the Banbury factory had been completed to meet continued buoyant domestic demand. Transmold, a component

subsidiary, had also been expanded to supply manufacturing companies within the group.

Menvier has subsidiaries in the Netherlands, Denmark, Portugal and now France. Following the £9.2 million purchase in July last year of Luminox, the country's third largest supplier of emergency lighting. Results at its American and Australian subsidiaries were disappointing, reflecting depressed markets.

After the Luminox purchase, interest charges rose from £201,000 to £555,000, partly offset by a £267,000 surplus from property sales.

Progress in Gatt farm talks

From ALAN McCREOGR

IN GENEVA

AS GATT negotiations began a week of intensive discussions in Geneva, the trade liberalisation talks achieved a significant step forward with agreement between the EC and US on a framework for negotiations on agriculture.

The talks on farm products are widely seen as the key to the entire Uruguay Round of trade liberalisation. Arthur Dunkel, Gatt director general, said the agreement was a "breakthrough".

Julius Katz, deputy US trade representative, said: "The time for statements and posturing is past. We now expect all participants to engage seriously in all areas of the agriculture negotiations."

Poll defeat for Chloride critic

By COLIN CAMPBELL

MAURICE Gillibrand, nominated for the Chloride board by dissatisfied shareholders, was defeated in a poll just an hour after winning a seat on a show of hands at yesterday's annual meeting. It was Dr Gillibrand's fifth attempt at joining the board.

Several shareholders have been critical of Chloride's continued poor financial performance. The group recently passed its 1990 final dividend and reported an attributable profit of £700,000, against £10.3 million last time.

In the poll, Dr Gillibrand received 5.64 million votes. However, there were 83.8 million votes against him. Ray

VFI sold to Dutch group

By MARTIN BARROW

HORROCKS, Chloride chairman, said that the group's investment in Altus Corporation of America should never have been made. He said it would cost Chloride £1 million in goodwill write-offs, losses incurred and provisions.

Chloride had performed in line with its budget in the first three months of the current year, but "we are going to have to work very hard to maintain our trading progress," Mr Horrocks added.

To improve gearing, Chloride is reviewing prospects for its batteries and electronics units and is looking at the "generation of further hard currency" from its international businesses.

VFI has manufacturing plants at Dartford, Kent, and in France.

VFI earned operating profits of £6.9 million.

Eastern breakup mooted in talks

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN LOS ANGELES

NORTHWEST Airlines, America's fourth largest carrier, is at an advanced stage in negotiations which could give it strategic landing slots on the east coast. A rival, Eastern Airlines, in bankruptcy and under court protection, would be broken up in the process.

Alfred Checchi, chairman of Northwest, was expected to put the proposal to Eastern creditors yesterday.

A spokesman for NWA said any suggestion of a breakup of NWA was speculation. NWA has never confirmed that Mr Checchi has held talks with Eastern. Martin Shugur, the court-appointed Eastern trustee, has confirmed this.

Northwest is believed to have 80 of Eastern's aircraft at its airport gates at Atlanta and maintenance facilities in Atlanta and Miami. It is unclear how much Northwest is prepared to offer.

Mr Checchi would break up and sell the remainder of Eastern to its creditors. Eastern has maintained it is not interested in liquidation, but would be prepared to consider a bid for the entire airline. Mr Checchi has said he is not interested in a deal if it means adding to Northwest's debt.

Eastern, once the flagship of Mr Frank Lorenzo's Texas Air, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy almost 16 months ago, after losing \$300 million in two years.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Pawnbroker invests in US finance firm

HARVEY & THOMPSON, the quoted pawnbroker, is investing \$500,000 in an American trade finance operation specialising in small North American companies looking for alternatives to bank finance. The new company, Lightship Financial Group, is 83 per cent owned by H. & T. and will be based in Philadelphia. Lightship will act as broker between American Credit Indemnity, the American credit insurance company, and an unnamed New York financial services group, which will fund the insured receivables. Lightship will take on an agency role and will not keep any of the receivables on its own books.

Lightship will charge a one per cent fee on the annual sales of the client and is expected to earn \$3 million in operating income in its first year, said Rupert Galliers-Pratt, H. & T. chairman. The new company is hoping to benefit from the credit squeeze facing small companies in America.

Jenkins sees profits soar

PRE-TAX profits at Dudley Jenkins Group, the USM

mailing-list broker, were up by 44 per cent to £766,000 in the year to end-April. An eight-month contribution from acquisitions raised profits by about £200,000. Group turnover rose by 35 per cent to £2.5 million. Eps rose from 7.4p to 8.8p. Final dividend is raised to 2.6p (2p), with an improved total of 3.8p (3p).

Abittrust asset value grows

THE net asset value of Abittrust Scotland Investment Company, formerly North of Scotland Investment Company, increased from 31.2p to 34.5p per share in the year to end-May. Pre-tax revenue advanced 22 per cent to £141,000 and total income 22 per cent to £410,000. Eps rose from 0.46p to 0.50p. The single dividend is improved to 0.45p (0.35p).

Reflex to raise £4m

REFLEX Investments, the Irish computer services group, plans to raise about £24.45 million (£24.45 a share) through a one-for-five rights issue at £1.80p a share. The company plans to use the funds to reduce borrowings of about £1.2 million.

Aidan Farrell, the joint managing director, said that because of continuing growth and an increasing range of activities, new capital was required to strengthen the group's capital base, reduce indebtedness and provide the required resources for continued development. Development Capital Corporation, with 35.59 per cent of the issued share capital, has indicated its intention to take up its full entitlement of the new ordinary shares.

Mitie Group up by 74%

MITIE Group, the mechanical and electrical engineering to cleaning and maintenance group, lifted pre-tax profits by 74 per cent to £616,000 in the year to end-March. Group turnover, boosted by acquisitions, advanced by 56 per cent to £15.6 million. Eps rose from 7.4p to 10.3p. The company is paying a final dividend of 1p, the first since 1978. Shares climbed by 10p to 193p on the news.

BBA spreads its wings

BBA Group, the automotive components and industrial and aviation services company, is to make a £2.23 million acquisition of the "fixed base" airport services operations of Van Dusen. The purchase, which is being acquired by its existing aviation services subsidiary, Page Avies, will make BBA the second largest player in the US airport services market.

Sotheby's £3m plan

SOTHEBY'S is planning to build three new galleries costing £3 million at its Summers Place premises, a Victorian mansion set in 40 acres of grounds at Buntingford, Hertfordshire, it was announced yesterday.

There have been rumours in the art world that the firm was to sell Summers Place, one of its two provincial bases, but Mr Michael Alastair, Sotheby's president and chief executive, said such a move would be "unthinkable", it is an integral part of our operations in England". Planning permission for the new expansion has been approved and the new building work is set to begin.

Blue Circle in £36m Italy deal

BLUE Circle Industries is buying Ceramic Dolomite, Italy's second biggest manufacturer of ceramic bathroom equipment for £36.5 million.

Charles Young, chief executive of Blue Circle's home product division, said the deal positions Blue Circle as one of the leading suppliers to the European bathroom products market.

Siemens growth

Siemens, the West German electronics group, spent DM 5.3 billion on capital investments during the nine months to June, an increase of 62 per cent. Net profits during the period rose by 5 per cent to DM 1.14 billion.

Banks re-rated Australians Ratings Pty downgraded three high-profile foreign banks here. They are the HongkongBank of Australia Ltd (A1 from A1-plus), Standard Chartered Bank of Australia Ltd (A2 from A1) and Chase AMP Bank (A1 from A1-plus).

Alexon sales up

ALEXON Group has enjoyed a buoyant first quarter with sales running 20 per cent ahead of last year. Peter Wiegand, the chairman, told the AGM, The shares rose 5p to 49p.

Hawker deal off

HAWKER SIDDELEY and UNC of the United States have broken off negotiations for the sale of Hawker to UNC's aircraft engine overhaul and repair subsidiaries, Airwork and Pacific Automotive.

Metro bids £13.5m for Yorkshire Radio

By PHILIP PANGALOS

METRO Radio Group, the independent radio stations group based in Newcastle, made a £13.5 million offer for Yorkshire Radio Network, which was immediately rejected.

Last week Yorkshire announced it was involved in possible merger talks with Trans World Communications.

Country NetWest, on behalf of Metro, has offered four new Metro ordinary shares for every five Yorkshire shares. The offer values each Yorkshire share at about 143p. There is also an alternative of

1989 HIGHLIGHTS

(000 US\$)*	1989	1988
Premiums written	4,833,453	3,831,987
Premiums ceded	584,084	545,827
Net premiums	3,749,368	3,886,160
Net investment income	857,444	728,318
Technical interest allocated to Life funds	481,196	374,549
Insurance underwriting result	189,964	84,766
Sundry income and expenditure	4,440	35,740
Operating profit	260,734	291,281
Profit on sale of properties and securities	179,380	153,647
Unrealized capital losses on securities	62,279	50,067
Taxes	70,721	66,163
Total other items	46,380	36,413
Profit for the year	307,104	267,673

* All of above listed figures have been converted at the rate of exchange of £1.2705 to the US\$.

- Gross premiums written by the Company totalled US\$ 4,833.5m (+12.1% over the previous year, at equal rates of exchange); the Life department contributed US\$ 1,698.7m and the Non-Life business US\$ 2,663.8m.
- Total investments reached US\$ 11,942.7m showing a growth of 12.9%.
- Net investment income totalled US\$ 857.4m showing a growth of 18.1%. The average yield has been 8.1%. Realised capital gains generated from the sale of securities amounted to US\$ 128.1m and from the sale of properties to US\$ 51.3m.
- The profit for the year amounted to US\$ 307.1m (+14.7% over the previous year); this profit an amount of US\$ 180.2m has been allocated to the reserves, of which US\$ 88m increased the "Extraordinary Reserve".
- The participations in insurance companies have been revised by US\$ 70.8m; this amount has been carried to the corresponding reserve.

Head Office in Trieste (Italy)

United Kingdom Branch in London

1989 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT

ASSETS (000\$)*	1989	1988
Building and farm property	4,077,987	3,829,477
Fixed-interest securities	13,758,079	12,021,529
Shares (including Associates)	4,385,287	3,765,164
Mortgage and policy loans	1,380,100	1,174,279
Deposits with Ceding Companies	508,516	507,813
Bank deposits	1,122,940	951,839
Accounts receivable and other		

Sometime between Big Bang and the collapse of the Berlin Wall, there was a great deal of talk in the securities industry of the potential for the London market to "decouple" from the other major markets, New York and Tokyo. When the London indices, in the wake of the 1987 crash, failed to match the recovery pace of its competitors, this was frequently explained in terms of our markets going their own way, following the fundamentals of the economy rather than the herd instinct.

How, then, do we explain the behaviour of the London market yesterday? In the wake of Wall Street's Friday night decline, London opened easier. But on the back of trade figures which emerged very much in line with expectations, the Footsie index recovered all the early losses by the time dealers went to lunch. But come the opening of Wall Street, with the Dow Jones tumbling 100 points or more at one stage, London laid an egg, closing 40 points lower.

The fundamentals for London remain reasonably bullish, although much will depend on

how much damage the government manages to inflict upon itself in the now inevitable dash for the exchange rate mechanism. Talks of leadership challenges, last minute elections and continued poor showings in the opinion polls have put a questionmark over foreign investors' views of London. But, politics aside, it is difficult to make a convincing bear case against London, and that is why there is never the selling pressure which might be suggested by the size of the index swings.

Only five years ago, the footsie and the Dow Jones industrial were running neck and neck, when both were around the 1,200 level. Now the Dow is pushing 3,000 while the footsie trades obstinately below the 2,400 level. Further international evidence of the underperformance of London can be found in the relationship to price/earnings ratios on Wall Street. London stands at only about 70 per cent of the Wall

Street model, the former at around the 11 level, compared with Wall Street's high tens. This may have been what Wall Street was recognising yesterday, so let us hope that the decoupling of the two markets which was so evident on the way up is not reversed on the way down. After all corporate Britain is in no worse state than corporate America, so there's no justification for a discount.

Right lines

The trade figures should not present the Chancellor John Major with too much difficulty in today's House of Commons debate on the

economy. True, there was a slight deterioration last month, though so slight as to be insignificant in the context of figures of this magnitude. But the deficit was exactly as markets expected and the underlying trends continue to be moderately encouraging.

Exports have now been growing faster than imports for the last ten months. In the second quarter of the year the volume of exports, excluding oil and erratic items, was 12 per cent up on the same period a year earlier compared with a rise of 3½ per cent in imports on the same basis. Exports of consumer goods were 29 per cent higher compared with a rise in consumer imports of 11 per cent, and exports of capital goods rose 5½ per cent

compared with imports up 1½ per cent. Similar trends can be seen across most other sectors.

The trends are clearly in the right direction, but the starting position is still adverse. When the monthly import figure is as far above the export figure as it is, at £10.2 billion against £8.64 billion, then the improvement has to go on for a long time before the gap narrows significantly.

The hope is that the slowdown in the economy will continue to cut growth in imports while exports will not suffer too much from the recent rise in the exchange rate. Last week's data were reasonably encouraging. Retail sales fell, the labour market continued to loosen slightly with another rise in unemployment and bank lending and monetary growth showed signs of slowing down. But the outlook for exports is more problematic. While today's buoyancy owes something to last year's fall in sterling, this has now

been partially reversed so after a lag one may expect some slackening in export growth.

The Budget forecast of a £15 billion deficit this calendar year now looks optimistic given the £9.03 billion logged up in the first half. But by the standards of recent months the half-time report is not too discouraging.

Max Newton

Readers may have noticed that our regular US Note-book was missing from yesterday's edition, and it is my sad duty to report that its author Maxwell Newton has died. Maxwell, the founder editor of *The Australian*, had a worldwide following for his writings on economics and politics, and brought to our readers his uncanny insight into the bond market. He had been preparing for *The Times* an article on the development potential of the Republic of Korea, which sadly will not now appear. For that reason and others, Maxwell will be missed. An obituary appears on page 14.

WITH Opec countries preparing to gather in Geneva for a crucial full ministerial session tomorrow, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq threatened to undo months of patient negotiations behind the scenes by launching a public attack on his Arab neighbours.

A week ago he accused Arab rulers of putting American interests first by causing low oil prices through overproduction and threatened retaliation if there was no major policy change. "If words fail to protect Iraqis something must be done to return things to their natural course and return usurped rights to their owners," he said. "Iraqis will not forget the maxim that cutting necks is better than cutting the means of living."

The implicit threat of military retaliation was too obvious to miss and although President Saddam identified no country by name, few doubt that his words were directed at Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, who have repeatedly breached their Opec production quotas.

Harsh words can force sharp movements in crude prices and his thinly-veiled threat would normally have been worth a couple of dollars per barrel. Yet Arab countries stayed quiet and the oil market shrugged off his remarks.

This muted response illustrates Opec's new-found confidence and its business-like approach to tomorrow's summit. Western oil analysts have been let down by the organisation too often to be carried away, but there is a growing belief that the foundations are being laid for a steady increase in oil prices during the first half of the decade.

The public squabbles which characterised Opec meetings in the 1970s are unlikely to be repeated. In the run-up to the Geneva summit much of the agenda has already been dealt with and a united front should emerge.

A significant breakthrough was achieved when the UAE agreed to reduce output to its quota level of 1.095 million barrels per day, removing about 900,000 of the cartel's estimated daily over-production.

Opec oils the wheels for a steady rise in prices



Heading for the summit: Rashid Salim al-Ameeri, the new Kuwaiti oil minister, arriving in Geneva

tion of 1.2 million. Kuwait, the other main quota violator, has reduced production to bring more pressure to bear on the UAE, and Saudi Arabia has made it clear that its days as swing producer are over.

This goes some way towards explaining why Arab countries ignored President Saddam's speech. There is a growing consensus that the UAE and Kuwait must be brought to heel if oil prices are to enjoy a long-term recovery from June's low of \$15.50. Opec members believe that the world's economic balance is changing in their favour and that they are now, more than ever, masters of their own fate.

Demand for oil is rising steadily. Demand from OECD countries is expected to increase by 1.9 per cent this year. Demand from non-OECD countries, which account for 30 per cent of world oil consumption against less than 20 per cent in 1979, is less easy to chart, but is outpacing growth in industrialised nations.

The other half of the equation sees production from

non-Opec countries declining. The North Sea is 500,000 barrels a day below its peak of 2.5 million while American imports from the Middle East have doubled to 6 million barrels a day in five years.

Russian exports to OECD countries continued to about 3.5 million barrels a day, a fall of 10 per cent year-on-year, and further cuts are certain as problems caused by poor maintenance and lack of investment become more acute. Any increase in demand from Eastern bloc countries trying to regenerate their economies cannot be met by the Soviet Union and Opec is the only alternative.

The most important question is whether Opec will be able to satisfy rising world demand. The gap between what the industrialised countries can consume and what Opec can produce has narrowed sharply.

In 1979, when OECD countries guzzled more than 30.5 million barrels a day, Opec's sustainable daily production was about 36 million barrels. The daily surplus has now fallen to about 3 million barrels. Opec's overall capacity fell during the 1980s, mainly because of the Iran-Iraq war but also because many Gulf states were unable to maintain investment in modern infrastructure when oil prices collapsed.

The oil market is tighter than it has been for two decades and the sharp rise in crude prices which followed last winter's cold snap in America was the result of the fine balance in supply and demand.

Even a modicum of discipline among Opec countries should swing prices back in their favour. Iran and Iraq have narrowed their differences and intense political pressure is being put on the UAE and Kuwait to restrain production. Against this background, analysts are forecasting a price of \$20 a barrel by the year-end and \$25 by early 1992 is no longer an unrealistic target.

Martin Barrow

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Rich mixture at Hazlewood

THE demise of CCF LaurencePrust has sparked a number of anxious searches for new advisers, none more so than at Hazlewood Foods, where the defunct company was both broker and merchant banker. But Hazlewood's choice of broker has caused some surprise in the Square Mile. It has settled on the independent Henderson Crosthwaite, after considering the usual big integrated houses, and has plumped for Baring Brothers as bankers. Henderson is, of course, home to that top-ranking team of food manufacturing analysts David Lang and Michael Landymore, and might therefore be a natural choice for Hazlewood. But that very team was the source of an extremely unflattering circular earlier this year on the food group, written by Mr Landymore, which went about as far as a prudent analyst can towards the suggestion that Hazlewood had blown its credibility with the City and that its previous set of figures warranted careful scrutiny. What price independence now? Observers reckon the team is probably worth more to Henderson than Hazlewood's fees, but fund managers will doubtless be watching the pair's output with even more than their usual interest.

THIS column is perhaps more used to handing out brickbats than plaudits, but hats off to American Express. The Times banking correspondent, en

route to the races on Saturday, had a wallet full of credit cards stolen. While such as Visa and Access understandably wanted a week to ten days to rustle up a replacement, Amex had one in his hands within an hour, via a local travel agent.

Shipping out

KEITH Irons is giving up, temporarily, he hopes, the sedate life of the City to go sailing on his boat *Ragtime*, named after his liking for ragtime music and because he once worked on a local rag newspaper. Irons bows out of his position as vice-president, public affairs, of mining group Minco having decided that life was going to be a step-by-step affair, and not the exciting pitch of corporate activity he had hoped. "Had Minco been successful in taking over Consolidated Gold Fields in 1988, business life would have been fast and furious, so I am now looking for a new challenge", says the man who stood but lost as a Tory candidate against Tony Banks in the Newham North West seat in 1983, and who earlier worked for RTZ, Blue Circle and Charter Consolidated.

Tap resources

A LENGTHY drought could be just what London estate agents are looking for to send house prices soaring again, if the experiences of their colleagues in Lima are anything to go by. In the Peruvian capital, where preparations are taking place for the swearing-in of president-elect Alberto Fujimori on Saturday,

properties which boast a bathtub among their otherwise spartan facilities are enjoying unprecedented increases in value. Continuous and extended interruptions in the water supply are to blame, since all available receptacles are filled to capacity when water is unexpectedly restored. The government attributes the water shortage to the worst drought for more than 100 years in the Andes, but harassed residents blame the government for not increasing the water supply even though the population of Lima virtually doubled in the 1980s and the city is now home to 7 million people. London, you have been warned. Mind you, Peruvian-style inflation of 3,000 per cent can have some weird effects on the housing market. One ex parte claims the price he paid for a house ten years ago would now just about buy a box of matches.

Beckwith dies

PETER Beckwith, the man who put the hard edge of reality on many of Alan Bond's most expensive dreams, has died at the age of 49. Beckwith died at home in Perth, Australia, on Sunday night, the victim of an inoperable brain tumour that was diagnosed only a few months ago. Friends yesterday described the former director of Bond Corp Holdings as "the nuts and bolts man" who made many of Alan Bond's biggest deals happen. His forte was property wheeling and dealing but Beckwith also sought his opinion on many a business deal.

Branching out

LIKE father, like son. Another of the Birch clan has just pulled off his first deal. Keith Birch, aged 33, son of the one-time Ward White boss Philip, has bought the client base, goodwill and assets of Ram Computer Group, a bigger competitor to his Touchstone Computers, which supplies accounting systems. Keith may be showing signs of his father's commercial acumen, but he lacks his sure touch with the press. The budding tycoon let slip two commercially-sensitive facts about the deal and then asked for them not to be reported. Delighted, but as he progresses in his career he may find one or two of my journalistic colleagues less understanding.

Martin Waller

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STOCK MARKET

Price-cutting manoeuvre cushions shares' tumble

By MICHAEL CLARK

AN OPENING fall of more than 100 points in the Dow Jones pulled the rug out from under share prices in London and sent investors scampering for the exits.

Market-makers in London followed their colleagues in New York by cutting prices at the start of the new account to prevent a possible wave of sellers swamping the market with unwanted stock. In just half an hour, a fall of 16 points in the FT-SE 100 index was extended to almost 50.

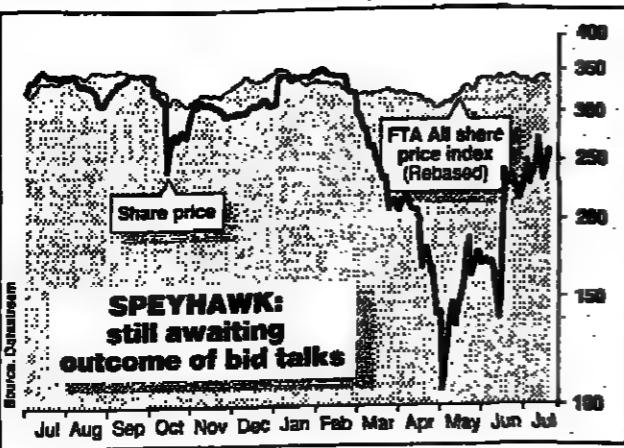
But the drastic action of the market-makers appeared to have the desired effect, with prices closing above their worst levels of the day. Selling was described as minimal, with 369 million shares traded. The FT-SE 100 ended 40.4 lower at 2,359.7 while the narrower FT index fell 31.0 to 1,867.1.

Another steady performance by the pound and a set of June trade figures matching expectations left government securities sporting gains of £4 at the longer end.

Blue chip companies with quotes on both sides of the Atlantic were worst hit, including Hanson, down 74p at 234p, after expressing an interest in bidding for the soon-to-be-privatised PowerGen.

Among other leaders, ICI fell 169p to £11.36 before second quarter figures on Thursday. Analysts are forecasting pre-tax profits for the first six months of £820 million-£830 million, against £293 million last time.

Reuters, the international news agency, also suffered before interim figures today, expected to show pre-tax prof-



SPEYHAWK: still awaiting outcome of bid talks

its up from £137 million to about £170 million.

Speyhawk, the property developer and takeover favourite, jumped 17p to 260p, with speculators hoping for word soon on bid talks. Nordstern, the Swedish property and construction company, which has built up a 5 per cent stake in Speyhawk, is reckoned to be the likely suitor. Since Speyhawk announced

Amber Day, the fashion retailer, firmed 2p to 56p, helped by institutional support. Philip Green, chairman, is taking 16 analysts to Glasgow today to visit his latest acquisition, What Everyone Wants, bought for £47 million. Tomorrow he will entertain a similar number of fund managers.

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last month it was in bid talks, its share price has run up from 139p. The Swedes have become attracted to British property, as illustrated by the £500 million bid this year for London & Edinburgh Trust by SPT.

However, any bid from the likes of Nordstern for Speyhawk is likely to be pitched at below the last stated asset value of 533p. That would be bad news for investors who

bought Speyhawk shares at the top of the bull market when the price touched 560p. Elsewhere in the property sector, there was revived speculative buying of Greycoat, 6p dearer at 414p, Priest Mansions 10p to 260p and Tops Estates 10p to 153p. BHH Group also rose 4p to 60p as Scottish Amicable announced it had raised its holding to 2.5 million shares, or 7 per cent. But

Friday with figures from

apart from the odd pocket of activity, there was little support for the rest of the sector. Falls were seen in British Land, 4p to 310p, Dwyer 10p to 130p, Frogmore Estates 4p to 331p, Great Portland 3p to 242p, Land Securities 4p to 522p, and MEPC 5p to 513p.

There was little respite for the "big four" high street clearers before the interim dividend season, starting on

Friday with figures from

Prudential 2p to 157p, Royal Bank 15p to 172p, Sainsbury 15p to 185p and Tesco 15p to 187p.

Philip Morris 65p to 67p, Price Dodge 42p to 45p, Prudential 2p to 157p, Royal Bank 15p to 172p, Sainsbury 15p to 185p and Tesco 15p to 187p.

Carlsberg 48p to 50p, PPG Industries 52p to 54p, Pricerite 27p to 30p, Prudential 2p to 157p, Royal Bank 15p to 172p, Sainsbury 15p to 185p and Tesco 15p to 187p.

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Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only and add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If the matches you have won outright or a share of 25p dividend money stated. If you win follow the details on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

PLATINUM

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 23. Dealings end August 3. Contango day August 6. Settlement day August 13.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

(VOLUMES PAGE 26)

Heavy markdown

Portfolio

PLATINUM

DAILY DIVIDEND

£2,000

Claims required for +30 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Hamerprint	Paper, Print, Advs	
2	Wales	Property	
3	Lox (Wm)	Foods	
4	Briton (P)	Property	
5	Hickson	Chemicals, Plas	
6	Unitech	Electricals	
7	Matthews (Bernard)	Foods	
8	BHf Group	Property	
9	Conder Grp	Building, Roads	
10	PFG Hodges	Industries, L-R	
11	Whitbread "A" (aa)	Breweries	
12	Logica	Electricals	
13	Bulmer (H P)	Herbicides	
14	Fosco	Chemicals, Plas	
15	Granger	Property	
16	Swire Pacific "A"	Industrials, S-Z	
17	Jardine Math	Industrials, E-Z	
18	Barbours Index	Newspapers, Pub	
19	Renrol	Chemicals, Plas	
20	Thames Water	Water	
21	Clifford Foods "A"	Foods	
22	Berkeley Grp	Building, Roads	
23	Vincent	Industrials, S-Z	
24	Halma	Industrials, E-Z	
25	Stevens	Building, Roads	
26	Barr (AG)	Foods	
27	Verson	Industrials, S-Z	
28	LWT CP	Leisure	
29	TGH	Industrials, S-Z	
30	Bristol	Newspapers, Pub	
31	Redland (aa)	Building, Roads	
32	Asda	Property	
33	Glynn (aa)	Industrials, E-Z	
34	Macarthy	Industrials, L-R	
35	Burns (aa)	Oil, Gas	
36	Wagon Ind	Industrials, S-Z	
37	Thames TV	Leisure	
38	Amersham	Chemicals, Plas	
39	Allevon	Drapers, Stores	
40	Oil Search	Oil, Gas	
41	Sebe (aa)	Industrials, S-Z	
42	GT Western Res	Oil, Gas	
43	Ranger	Oil, Gas	
44	Mountains	Property	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Total

Two winners shared the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mr Ronald Rooke of Wolverhampton, West Midlands, and Mrs Winifred Evey, of Bristol, Avon, each receive £1,000.

BRITISH FUNDS

1990	High	Low	Stock	Int. Gross	Int. Net	Div. per share	Price	Change per share	Yield
SHORTS (Under Five Years)									

87	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
88	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
89	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
90	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
91	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
92	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
93	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
94	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
95	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
96	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
97	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
98	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
99	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
00	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
01	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
02	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
03	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
04	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
05	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
06	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
07	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
08	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
09	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
10	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
11	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
12	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
13	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
14	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
15	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
16	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
17	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
18	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
19	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
20	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
21	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
22	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
23	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
24	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
25	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
26	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
27	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
28	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
29	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
30	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
31	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
32	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
33	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
34	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
35	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
36	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
37	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
38	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
39	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
40	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
41	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
42	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
43	82	82	82	82	82				

Weekly Offer												Weekly Offer												Weekly Offer											
Bid			Offer			Yield			Bid			Offer			Yield			Bid			Offer			Yield			Bid			Offer			Yield		
Weekly			Weekly			Weekly			Weekly			Weekly			Weekly			Weekly			Weekly			Weekly			Weekly			Weekly					
Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield	Bid	Offer	Yield			
ABERY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD	80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH4 8AL	Tel: 01202 717373 (London)	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00	£1.00	£1.00	0.00			
Alfa Fund	105.8	112.0	+0.2	9.51	10.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00	105.8	112.0	0.00		
Alpha Index	127.8	132.2	-0.6	1.75	1.75	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00	127.8	132.2	0.00		
Alpha Bond	186.8	188.2	-0.2	6.51	6.51	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00	186.8	188.2	0.00		
Alpha Growth	179.9	192.4	-0.2	6.51	6.51	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00	179.9	192.4	0.00		
Alpha Pacific	124.4	125.8	-0.2	6.00	6.00	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00	124.4	125.8	0.00		
Alpha Shares	163.7	174.1	-0.5	2.79	2.79	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00	163.7	174.1	0.00		
Alpha Corp	93.70	93.87	-0.1	7.00	7.00	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00	93.70	93.87	0.00		
Alpha Energy	61.53	67.47	-0.4	6.07	6.07	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00	61.53	67.47	0.00		
Alpha General	101.1	107.5	-0.2	3.05	3.05	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00		
Alpha Japan	183.0	194.2	-0.5	2.57	2.57	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00	183.0	194.2	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00		
Alpha Korea	101.1	107.5	-0.2	3.05	3.05	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00	101.1	107.5	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00		
Alpha Korea	98.71	105.6	-0.5	1.00	1.00	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71	105.6	0.00	98.71																						

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 93.8 (day's range 93.8-94.0).																		
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES																		
Market rates for July 23																		
Range										Close	1 month	3 months	OTHER STERLING RATES					
High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Change	On 23	Yd	Mo	P/E	High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Change	On 23	Yd	P/E
74	26	AGB Bremen	39	38	38	38	49	64		138	106	Gibson Lyons	115	120	+2	78	85	88
113	45	ASD	28	28	28	28	116	67		201	101	Leben Aktiv	273	273	-	30	30	30
61	24	ATA Selection	19	19	19	19	40	40		167	175	Great Southern	27	30	-	107	108	120
25	43	Aberdeen Pnt	47	47	47	47	31	50		248	201	Victor (Elliott)	195	210	-	44	41	51
203	15	Acorn Compo	210	210	210	210	15	81		25	30	Greenwich Casting	10	10	-	36	70	50
95	23	Acres Group	148	148	148	148	12	130		210	181	Hedgehog Inds	20	20	-	50	50	50
72	27	Adm. Corp.	84	84	84	84	81	69		211	181	Holiday Inn	207	207	-	108	108	110
168	20	Adm. Paul	124	124	124	124	12	130		211	181	Holiday Inn	90	108	-	50	50	50
263	20	Adm. Thompson	124	124	124	124	12	130		211	181	Holiday Inn	43	50	-	50	50	50
116	115	Alfred Ins	121	121	121	121	84	85		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
126	88	Alid Lease	102	102	102	102	12	134		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
43	121	Ambrose Up	102	102	102	102	12	134		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
206	183	Amer Bus Sys	203	203	203	203	12	134		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
40	182	Anglo Pak Sys	19	19	19	19	8	87		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
187	181	Apollo Watch Prods	19	19	19	19	8	87		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
208	182	Applo Watch Prods	19	19	19	19	8	87		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
42	183	Arched	20	20	20	20	8	87		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
400	399	Arched Comms	203	203	203	203	12	104		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
16	184	Asian Energy	395	395	395	395	12	218		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
160	185	Asian Nursing	125	125	125	125	2	27		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
205	186	Atlantic Sys	45	45	45	45	2	27		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
470	470	Atlas Equipment	665	665	665	665	20	270		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
43	187	Audr General	227	227	227	227	12	142		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
48	188	B8B Design	38	38	38	38	8	238		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
187	189	BLP Group	28	28	28	28	8	210		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
23	190	BMS Corp	28	28	28	28	8	210		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
128	191	Boatworks	53	53	53	53	8	244		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
126	192	Brockenb	57	57	57	57	8	244		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
71	193	Brockenb (William)	57	57	57	57	8	244		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
105	194	Brennan Chars	118	118	118	118	12	101		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
70	195	Brent Beck & Nolte	65	65	65	65	12	163		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	196	Better Care Progs	237	237	237	237	8	97		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
92	197	Bester S-Gamers	97	125	125	125	8	63		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
46	198	Bethel	21	21	21	21	2	27		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
23	199	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	200	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	201	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	202	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	203	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	204	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	205	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	206	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	207	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	208	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	209	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	210	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	211	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	212	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	213	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	214	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	215	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	216	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	217	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	218	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	219	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	220	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	221	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	222	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	223	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	224	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	225	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	226	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	227	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	228	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	229	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	230	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	231	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	232	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	233	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	234	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	235	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	236	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	237	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	238	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	239	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	240	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	241	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	242	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	243	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	244	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	245	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	246	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63	63	8	194		211	181	Holiday Inn	77	77	-	67	70	70
170	247	Bethel Ind.	63	63	63</													

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

THIRD MARKET

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES											
	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
FT-SE 100						Previous open interest 24152	Three month ECU				
Sep 90	2468.0	2478.0	2390.0	2411.0	6019	Sep 90 89.68	89.75	89.68	89.77	89.75	29
Dec 90	2530.0	2530.0	2226.0	2476.0	67	Dec 90 NT					59700
Three Month Sterling						Previous open interest 176794	US Treasury Bond				
Sep 90	85.34	85.42	85.31	85.40	13756	Sep 90 93.01	93.25	92.18	93.11	94.09	15
Dec 90	86.19	86.31	85.17	86.27	17502	Previous open interest 4214	Long Gilt				
Three Month Eurodollar						Sep 90 84.31	85.30	84.21	85.14	85.15	26
Sep 90	91.97	92.10	91.93	92.02	1724	Sep 90 93.06	93.70	93.03	93.27	93.05	11
Dec 90	91.98	92.09	91.94	92.02	902	Previous open interest 3111	Japanese Govt Bond				
Three Month Euro DM						Sep 90 85.40	85.49	84.50	85.70	85.37	35
Sep 90	91.65	91.73	91.62	91.69	4799	Dec 90 85.35	85.36	84.51	85.01	85.01	35
Dec 90	91.53	91.56	91.47	91.53	6281	Previous open interest 55335	German Govt Bond				
LONDON COMMODITIES											
LONDON OIL REPORTS											
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firmed with the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.											
CRUDE OILS/assessed (\$/bbl FOB)											
Brent Phys	18.70	+60				LONDON FOX	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE				
15 day Aug	18.90	+65				COCOA	Official prices/volume previous day	Rudolf Wolff			
15 day Sep	19.20	+45				AMT Futures	(£/tonne)	Cash	3 month	Vol	
WTI Sep	20.55	+50				Jul 746-742	May 832-835				
WTI Oct	20.85	+40				Sep 762-760	Jul 857-855				
PRODUCTS Buy/sell \$/MTT, Spot CIF NW Euro - prompt delivery						Dec 789-788	Sep 877-876				
Prem Gas 15	258-260					Mar 819-817	Vol 1895				
Gasoil EEC	+2	170-171	+2			COFFEE	AMT Futures				
Non 1H Aug	+3	174-175	+3			Jul 527-523	Mar 807-805				
Non 1H Sep	+2	175-176	+2			Sep 549-547	Mar 826-823				
3.5 Fuel Oil		71-72	-1			Oct 175-175	Nov 568-567				
Naphtha	+1	164-166	+1			Jan 587-586	Jul 644-640				
BIFFEY						NOV 176.50 BYR	Vol 1344				
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo (\$10/pdt)						SUGAR	C Czernowitz				
Jul 90 Hi 1145-1120 Low Close 1141						Dec 177.00 BYR	Vol 2335				
Aug 90 Hi 1150-1125 Low Close 1155						FOB					
Oct 90 Hi 1262-1220 Low Close 1262						Aug 252.2-51.8	Mar 240 8-0.0				
Jan 91 Hi 1278-1250 Low Close 1278						Oct 250.8-50.2	May 241.4-40.6				
Vol 363 lots Open interest 5134						Dec 255.0-35.0	Aug 242.5-42.0				
Dry cargo index 1138+9						LONDON GRAIN FUTURES					
Sep 90 19.30-19.25						WHEAT close (\$/t)	Vol 48				
Oct 90 19.45-19.40						Sp 111.00 Nv 115.10 Ja 111.0	Sp 112.00 My 122.00				
Vol 7/48						Sp 122.40 My 126.00 Jn 127.40	Sp 108.80 Nv 114.00 Ja 117.70				
LONDON POTATO FUTURES (£/tonne)						BARLEY close (\$/t)	Vol 32				
Mth Open Close						Sp 108.80 Nv 114.00 Ja 117.70	Sp 109.80 Nv 114.00 Ja 117.70				
Nov 87.0 85.5						Sp 109.80 Nv 114.00 Ja 117.70	Sp 110.80 Nv 115.00 Ja 118.00				
Feb 97.0 95.0						SOYABEAN	AMT Futures				
Apr 129.0 130.2						Aug 108.5-11.5	Aug 111.5-12.0				
May 141.5 141.5						Dec 111.5-12.0	Dec 118.0-19.0				
Vol 367						Vol 490					
LONDON MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION											
Live Pig Contract											
Mth Open Close											
Aug 114.0 114.5						(kg liv)					
Sep 114.0 114.3						GB (p)	83.25	141.47	104.17		
Oct 114.5 115.3						GB (+/-)	-12.27	-17.35	-17.72		
Nov 113.3 113.3						Eng/Wal (%)	-8.5	+12.5	-11.4		
Live Cattle Contract						Eng/Wal (p)	82.99	142.18	104.35		
Aug 106.0						Scotland (p)	-59.7	-39.1	-15.8		
Oct 115.5						Scotland (p)	97.38	136.13	109.73		
Nov 116.5						Scotland (+/-)	-3.26	-19.05	-4.51		
Vol Pig-84 Cattle-0						Estimated dead carcass weight					

Palladium pm flc: \$118.70 (E65 35)
Spot Silver: \$4.91-4.93 (E2.690-2.705)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES												
		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
83	83 Amt Futures	83	85	82								
215	215 Cale In;	215	225									
251	251 Charnell	295	305.0	13	04	11						
54	54 Cheshire Art	59	57									
24	24 Cognac Ind	9	12									
215	215 London Storage	210	220									
110	110 Coom Eye	60	70			14.3						
18	18 E Fins E Res	32	35	32								
100	100 Endure	65	75	13	19	87						
17	17 Enron	75	47									
22	22 Enron Comex	11	20	10	20	11						
36	36 Enron (PE)	10	15									
81	81 LGA	52	57	27	49	20						
57	57 London Ltr	13	16	12	20	23						
60	60 London Ltr	21	34			60						
55	55 DPL	23	30									
101	101 Uni Group	177	182	67	37	95						
89	89 Value Magic Co	92	57			172						
FT-SE 100												
Sep 90	—	2468.0	2478.0	2390.0	2411.0	6019						
Dec 90	—	2530.0	2530.0	2526.0	2476.5	67						
Three Month Sterling												
Sep 90	—	85.34	85.42	85.31	85.40	13856						
Dec 90	—	86.18	86.31	86.17	86.27	17502						
Three Month Eurodollar												
Sep 90	—	91.97	92.10	91.93	92.02	1724						
Dec 90	—	91.98	92.09	91.94	92.02	992						
Three Month Euro DM												
Sep 90	—	91.65	91.73	91.62	91.69	4799						
Dec 90	—	91.53	91.56	91.47	91.53	6281						
Three month ECU												
Sep 90	—	89.68	89.75	89.66	89.77	29						
Dec 90	—	NT				89.760						
US Treasury Bond												
Sep 90	—	93.01	93.25									
Long Gilt												
Sep 90	—	84.31	85.30									
Japanese Govt Bond												
Sep 90	—	83.06	83.70	83.03	83.77	485						
German Govt Bond												
Sep 90	—	85.40	85.49	84.50	85.70	5537						
Dec 90	—	85.35	85.36	84.51	85.01	555						
COMMODITIES												
LONDON OIL REPORTS					LONDON FOX					LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					COCOA					Official prices/volume previous day		
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					AMT Futures	May 838-836	May 837-835	May 837-835	May 837-835	Rudolf Watt:		
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jul 745-742	Sep 762-760	Sep 789-788	Sep 877-876	Sep 877-876	(/tonne)	Cash	3 month
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Mar 819-817	Vol 1895	Vol 1895	Vol 1895	Vol 1895	Vol		
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					GAS OIL AMT Futures	Jul 172-170	Sep 172-170	Sep 172-170	Sep 172-170	Copper Gde A	1515.0-1517.0	1490.5-1491.0
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Aug 172-170	SLR	Sep 172-170	Sep 172-170	Sep 172-170	536225	472.0-474.0	476.5-477.0
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 173-00-72-75	Sep 175-50-75-25	Sep 175-50-75-25	Sep 175-50-75-25	Sep 175-50-75-25	36750	527.0-525.0	559.0-562.0
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Oct 175-50-75-25	Nov 175-50-75-25	Jan 187-00-72-75	Jul 184-50-75-25	Jul 184-50-75-25	108075	562.0-565.0	6170.0-6175.0
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Nov 176-50-75-25	Dec 176-50-75-25	Jan 177-00-72-75	Feb 177-00-72-75	Feb 177-00-72-75	6000	575.0-577.0	1553.0-1554.0
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Dec 177-00-72-75	Jan 177-00-72-75	Feb 177-00-72-75	Mar 177-00-72-75	Mar 177-00-72-75	244425	582.0-582.0	9875.0-9900.0
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Feb 178-00-72-75	Mar 178-00-72-75	Apr 178-00-72-75	May 178-00-72-75	May 178-00-72-75	11046	587.0-587.0	9875.0-9900.0
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Sep 179-00-72-75	Oct 179-00-72-75	Nov 179-00-72-75	Dec 179-00-72-75	Jan 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					Jan 179-00-72-75	Feb 179-00-72-75	Mar 179-00-72-75	Apr 179-00-72-75	May 179-00-72-75			
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firm in the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.					May 179-00-72-75	Jun 179-00-72-75	Jul 179-00-72-75	Aug 179-00-72-75	Sep 179-00-72-75			

COMMODITIES

LONDON OIL REPORTS		LONDON FOX		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		
The OPEC rhetoric continued to fuel the industry's concern about what may come out of this week's meeting. Gasoil prices firmed with the futures whilst other products were stable in thin interest.		Official prices/volume previous day		Rudolf Weller		
CRUDE OILS/assessed (\$/BBL FOB)		(£/tonne)	Cash	3 month	Vol	
Brent Phys	18.70	+60	COCOA AMT Futures	May 838-838		
15 day Aug	18.90	+65	Sep 762-760	Jul 857-855		
15 day Sep	19.20	+45	Dec 788-788	Sep 877-876		
WTI Sep	20.55	+50	Mar 819-817	Vol 1895		
WTI Oct	20.85	+40	GAS OIL AMT Futures	AMT Futures		
PRODUCTS Buy/sell \$/MT.			Jul 527-523	May 807-806		
Spot CIF NW Euro - prompt delivery			Aug 172.00 SLR	Sep 549-547		
Prem Gas 15	258-260		Sep 173.00-72.75	May 826-825		
Gasoil EEC	+2	170-171	Oct 175.50-75.25	Nov 568-567		
Non 1H Aug	+3	174-175	Jan 587-586	Jul 644-640		
Non 1H Sep	+2	175-176	Nov 176.50 BYR	Vol 1344		
3.5 Fuel Oil		71-72	SUGAR C Czernowitz	FOB		
Naphtha	+1	164-166	Dec 177.00 BYR	Vol 2335		
BIPREX			Jan 177.50-77.00	Aug 252.2-51.8	Mar 240 8-0.0	
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo (\$10/pdt)			Feb 174.00-72.00	Oct 250.8-50.2	May 241.4-40.6	
Jul 90 Hi 1145-1120 Low Close 1141			Vol 7248	Dec 255 0-35 0	Aug 242.5-42.0	
Aug 90 Hi 1150-1125 Low Close 1155						
Oct 90 Hi 1262-1220 Low Close 1262						
Jan 91 Hi 1278-1250 Low Close 1278						
Vol 383 lots Open interest 5134						
Dry cargo index 1138 +9						
LONDON POTATO FUTURES (£/tonne)			LONDON MEAT FUTURES (Kg)		MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION	
Mth Open Close			Av/yo fatstock prices at representative markets on July 23			
WHEAT close (Ft0)						
Sp 111.00 Nv 115.10 Ja 119.05	Vol 45					
Mr 122.40 My 126.00 Jn 127.40						
BARLEY close (Ft0)	Vol 32					
Aug 108.80 Nv 114.00 Ja 117.70						
Mr 121.00 My 122.20						
SOYABEAN AMT Futures						
Aug 106.00 Scotland (p)	Vol 490					
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Making divorce work for children

LEGAL BRIEF

new divorce proposals,

Child maintenance
heads the agenda of
Chris Barton reports

The prime minister's Pankhurst lecture on family matters was well-timed. On television, the Lord Chancellor canvassed the reform of parental divorce law, and in Wisconsin, Antony Newton, the social security secretary, examined an American method of ensuring fathers support their children. Stories were even planted in the press to test reaction to the idea of "children being legally responsible for their aged parents. But why has the cabinet developed such an interest in family law?

The official answer, of course, is that its reform would help in the revival of those much-heralded Victorian values of family sanctity, self-sufficiency and non-intervention. In truth, and whatever the intrinsic value of recent initiatives, even the most cursory study of social history is enough to expose the myth of the family in decline. The 19th century was not a halcyon period in which entire extended families – all seven primary members and 33 secondaries, if not the 151 terciaries – sat around some endless hearth offering support to one another.

Pre-industrial households were small, usually containing about four people, the children leaving at about age 15 to become servants

or farm labourers, often far from their parents. In an earlier century, for the sons of the big house it was not the wanton provision of subsidised all-day creches that ensured parental deprivation; Sir Robert Walpole barely saw his parents from the day he was sent to school as a six-year-old to when he was recalled from Cambridge on the death of his father.

Should divorce, if only between parents of minors, be made more difficult? Much depends, as "Professor" Joad of Brains Trust fame used to say, on what we mean by "difficult". If we mean more painful for all concerned, more humiliating, more uncertain – that is, more law, more lawyers, more expense – then it is difficult to imagine a process more likely to redound to the disadvantage of the children of the family. Such an approach had precious few admirers when it was discarded by the Divorce Reform Act in 1969.

However, if by "difficult" we mean a process whereby the adults are required to give greater consideration to their children's interests

as a condition of their own escape, then the present law is inadequate. The 1973 Matrimonial Causes Act starts well by requiring that a decree absolute of divorce be withheld until the arrangements for the children are "satisfactory". Then it temporises by being prepared to settle for "the best that can be devised in the circumstances", before finally abandoning any attempt to put children first by an ultimate acceptance of it being "impractical for the parties to make any such arrangements".

This matter has been prospectively "reformed" by the Children Act 1989, in that normally the court will only be required to "consider" the proposed arrangements for the children and only then if they are 16 (currently 18); not so much a reform as an acknowledgement of present inadequacy coupled with an unwillingness to do anything about it. This year, the Law Commission will present to the government its final proposals for divorce "over a period of time". The thinking is that the availability of divorce

should not be dependent on whether there are children but that it may be possible to use the divorce process to protect their interests.

It is children born outside marriage, whose parents do not live together, who make up the majority of those without paternal support. The government is said to have found its preferred solution in the midwest of America. In Wisconsin, DNA tests are used to establish paternity, after which the father is automatically liable

for child support and the mother cannot choose to seek it. The relevant department takes the money at source, the first big winner of the Wisconsin state lottery lost £15,000 this way.

It would not perhaps be too cynical to see governmental interest in these matters as being motivated as much by economic as by moral considerations – child support appears in Britain total about £1 billion. Such suspicion might apply equally well to the recently floated idea that the

middle-aged be made legally responsible for the support of their parents. Yet, once again, the idea of society having regressed from some 19th century nirvana is not borne out by the facts.

A survey conducted in 1882 by Charles Booth, the social investigator, revealed that only 25 per cent of those aged over 65 were supported by their families against 50 per cent in 1976, the date of the latest survey. When the government tried to challenge the poor law to make "children" take

financial responsibility for their parents, most of the younger generation managed to avoid paying.

Family lawyers, aware that their subject does little for them than it does for families, must see themselves the growing takeover of the "alimony" business by actuaries, may soon be compensated by the loss of divorce to social workers and child support work to civil servants.

• The author is a principal lecturer in law at Staffordshire Polytechnic.



Happy families but when parents separate the present law does not give enough consideration to the interests of children.

Law Report July 24 1990 Chancery Division

Function of domestic court in applying European Court decisions

Stoke-on-Trent City Council v B & Q plc
Norwich City Council v B & Q plc

Before Mr Justice Hoffmann
(Judgment July 18)

In applying the Treaty of Rome as interpreted by the Court of Justice of the European Communities, the national court had to be aware of the division of powers between the legislature and the judiciary. The court had not been endowed with quasi-legislative powers by the Treaty, its function being to review the Acts of the legislature but not to substitute its own policies and values.

In the instant case, the court would proceed on the footing that the law was clear, that there had been contraventions of section 47 of the Shops Act 1950, that the conduct complained of was criminal and that it was not for the court to decide the effect on section 47 of article 30 of the Treaty of Rome. Mr Justice Hoffmann so

stated in the Chancery Division in giving judgment for the plaintiff city councils, Stoke-on-Trent and Norwich, who had sought injunctions under section 222 of the Local Government Act 1972 to restrain the defendants, B & Q plc, from opening do-it-yourself shops in Hanley and Norwich on Sundays.

The court granted a certificate of appeal direct to the House of Lords. Pending appeal, B & Q gave undertakings to the court that it would close on Sundays for the serving of customers in Hanley and Norwich.

Mr Stuart Isaacs and Mr Neil Calver for the councils; Mr David Vaughan, QC, Mr Gerald Barling, Mr Nicholas Davidson and Mr David Anderson for B & Q.

MR JUSTICE HOFFMANN said the Treaty of Rome was the supreme law of our country, taking precedence over Acts of Parliament. Our entry into the Community meant that Parliament had surrendered its sovereign right to legislate con-

trary to the provisions of the Treaty on the matters of social and economic policy which it regulated.

The entry into the Community was in itself a high act of social and economic policy, by which the partial surrender of sovereignty was seen as more than compensated by the advantages of membership.

In applying the Treaty as interpreted by the European Court, the national court had to be aware of another division of powers: not between European and national jurisdiction, but between legislature and judiciary.

The fact that the European Court had said that a particular question was one for decision by the national court did not endow that court with quasi-legislative powers. It had to confine itself within the area of judicial intervention required by the Treaty and not trespass on questions which were for democratic decision in Parliament.

Section 47 of the 1950 Act said that every shop, save as otherwise provided, was to close

on Sunday. The Fifth Schedule to the Act permitted the sales on Sunday of a miscellaneous list of goods such as newspapers, flowers and confectionery.

Article 30 of the Treaty provided: "Quantitative restrictions on imports and all measures having equivalent effect shall, without prejudice to the following provisions, be prohibited between member states."

Article 36 contained an exception for prohibitions or restrictions "justified on grounds of public morality, public policy or public security...". and added that such prohibitions or restrictions shall not, however, constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination or disguised restriction on trade between member states".

B & Q had said that a prohibition on Sunday trading was a measure having equivalent effect to a quantitative restriction on imports because it had demonstrated through a persistent course of illegal Sunday trading over the past few years

that in do-it-yourself stores and garden centres Sunday was the best trading day of the week.

Furthermore, trade which was lost through having to close on Sundays was not recovered during the rest of the week and enforcing the law therefore caused a net fall in turnover, including sales of goods imported from other member states.

In 1983 B & Q raised the article 30 defense in a prosecution by Torfaen Borough Council before the Cwmbran magistrates. The magistrates made a reference to the European Court under article 177 of the Treaty requesting a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of the Treaty. On November 22, 1983, the European Court delivered judgment in Case 145/83 *Torfaen Borough Council v B & Q plc* (The Times November 24, 1983; [1983] 2 WLR 1330).

Interpretation of *Torfaen* ruling.

The judgment of the European Court was intended to be an authoritative interpretation of the Treaty sufficient to enable the domestic court to decide the case. But every decision was another encoding and there had been arguments over what the judgment meant. It had even been suggested that in the last resort there should be another reference to find out.

In his Lordship's judgment, however, its effect, in the light of the developing jurisprudence on article 30, was tolerably plain. The Court had decided that the validity of the English Sunday trading law depended on the answers to two questions:

1 Did the law pursue an aim which was justified with regard to Community law?

2 Did the effect of the law exceed what was necessary to achieve the end in view?

In his Lordship's judgment, the Court had itself answered the first question. It was true that paragraph 14 of its judgment ([1983] 2 WLR 1330, 1361), it was said that rules governing the opening hours of retail premises were a matter for the member states "in so far as their purpose is to ensure that working and non-working hours are so arranged as to accord with national or regional socio-cultural characteristics".

If "in so far as" meant "if it is the case that", it could be said that the national court was being left to decide whether that condition had been met.

In his Lordship's judgment, however, "in so far as" was intended to mean "because" and the Court was deciding that the purpose of section 47 of the 1950 Act did not satisfy his Lordship's responsibility agreed.

In any case, it seemed plain and obvious that the purpose of section 47 was to arrange working and non-working hours in shops in England and Wales so as to accord with the "regional socio-cultural characteristic" by which people generally did not work on Sundays.

The principal question before his Lordship had been whether the restrictive effect of specific national rules on the free movement of goods exceeded the effects intrinsic to trade rules. The European Court had specifically said that that was a question of fact to be determined by the national court.

Objectives of the Shops Act. In order to decide whether the effects of section 47 exceeded what was necessary to achieve the aim in view, it was first necessary to decide what the aim was.

The aim was clear enough from the terms of the Act itself, namely, to ensure that so far as possible, shopkeepers and shop assistants did not have to work on Sundays.

The fact that the promoters of the Act envisaged that aim suggested that it was undesirable to have to work on Sunday. There could be no rational basis for confirming that view to shopkeepers. In that sense they were seeking to maintain what they regarded as the traditional English Sunday.

It was equally clear that the Act did not contemplate that its aim could be fully achieved. Certain "concessions" were in practice unavoidable; for one thing, someone had to sell the fruit and flowers which the workers carried back from their country expeditions.

No one contemplated that public houses should have to shut on Sundays and that meant that eating, light refreshments had to be able to stay open. It would have been strange if the only restriction available on Sundays was alcohol.

Proportionality test.

The concept of the proportionality test was that a measure should not be disproportionate to the importance of its objective.

The same result then the necessary test was applied. The object of the legislation was to secure that new shop opening as possible as possible on Sundays. The need for exceptions was seen as that, even though not part of the legislative purpose, they were considered to be unavoidable concessions.

The history of the Sunday trading law showed that the existing exceptions were referred to Parliament as the limits of what was necessary to achieve the legislative object.

The result was that, although the burden was on those seeking to prosecute to justify the proportionality of the measure, that burden had been fully discharged on the basis of facts of which the court was entitled to take judicial notice. The factual and expert evidence adduced by B & Q did not disturb that conclusion.

The injunction:

B & Q had submitted that whatever the court's view on the validity of section 47 of the Shops Act 1950, no injunction should be granted since the proper place in which to determine the criminality of its actions was a criminal court and that unless a civil court could at once that an act was indiscriminately criminal, the jurisdiction to grant an injunction should not be exercised.

A similar, similar submission was made by B & Q in an earlier stage in the present proceedings, when it applied to have the proceedings struck out as an abuse of process.

The court had then said that to decide whether the local authorities satisfied the criteria laid down by the courts for the grant of an injunction was an issue.

It was clear from the decision of the House of Lords in *Stoke-on-Trent City Council v B & Q plc* ([1984] AC 754, 777) that a previous conviction in a criminal court was not a necessary condition for the exercise of the civil jurisdiction.

His Lordship accepted that the whole of what had been said was "predicated" upon the assumption that he was satisfied that the conduct in question was criminal. But he was.

Because the issues raised were to some extent unfamiliar, some time had been taken to explain his reasons. But that did not mean that the answer was not plain.

The remaining criteria also seemed to be satisfied. There were no causal offences here but B & Q's own evidence had already demonstrated, owed a great deal of its success to systematic breaches of the law.

That made the case an exceptional one and showed that continual criminal prosecution was not likely to be effective in securing compliance. B & Q had said it was entitled to take the view that the law on the point was unsettled, but having regard to the conclusions that his Lordship had reached, he could only proceed on the basis that the law was clear.

It might be that B & Q would, subject to any appeal, accept that to apply and give an undertaking or assurance that it would not in future trade on Sundays in Norwich or Stoke-on-Trent. In the absence of such an assurance or undertaking, the local authorities would be entitled to injunctions.

Solicitors: Sharpe, Pritchard, Winstanley & Pugh, Southampton.

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The aim was clear enough from the terms of the Act itself, namely, to ensure that so far as possible, shopkeepers and shop assistants did not have to work on Sundays.

Partners advised to adapt or die

An article in the magazine *Legal Business* by Michael Simmons, a senior partner at solicitors Makin Janers, addressed the problem of what could be done with the "unproductive partner".

"It is important to recognise that it is not a crime to be diagnosed as an unproductive partner," soothed Mr Simmons. "It may be our turn tomorrow." Unfortunately, for many lawyers, tomorrow is too late. Their "unproductivity" is being diagnosed today. It is common knowledge that high street solicitors are laying off staff because of the slump in the property market. And even some of the big firms in the City are starting to feel at a loose end as commercial property and the mergers and acquisitions markets slide to a halt.

With lawyers twiddling their thumbs, management faces tough decisions. How long does one keep staff (or even partners) in the hope of an upturn? Or is it best to take the difficult decision sooner rather than later?

Critics of the legal management world argue that nobody should have been surprised by the downturn and that sensible senior and managing partners should have recognised the cyclical nature of their business and prepared for it. Lawyers, the productive resources of a law firm, ought to be thoroughly versatile. With a switch of emphasis in the business strategy and retraining, a law firm ought to be re-tooled and firing at new markets with scarcely a drop in pace.

Of course some firms argue that one cannot teach an old lawyer new



Helena Twist: challenge

precedents. But there is a wealth of evidence to the contrary. A good example comes from Nabarro Nathanson, where the absorption of the legal department at the National Coal Board presented Helena Twist, the head of training, with an interesting challenge. Lawyers who had worked for the NCB for most of their careers had to be re-focused into membership of the company and commercial departments. They had to sell their services for the first time. And they now have to operate on behalf of several clients rather than just one.

Because Nabarro takes training

Versatility is the key to resolving the unproductive partner problem, reports Edward Fennell

very seriously indeed and understands the psychology of change, Ms Twist was given the resources to do a professional job with the new NCB assistant solicitors and partners. They acquired new skills, were absorbed within the Nabarro corporate culture and are now on their way to performing well in their new roles.

A similar story comes from Cameron Mackay where the absorption of a much smaller firm meant that lawyers (and even partners) who had worked on private client work had to be re-trained to operate in insolvency. Because the firm coordinated a retraining package and gave ample moral support and managerial back-up to lawyers in mid-career (and even very senior in their former speciality) they were able to switch direction satisfactorily.

So those firms that are being caught with inflexible lawyers and no work to occupy them have nobody to blame but themselves. By making no provision for the future, by allowing their lawyers to over-specialise and by failing to invest in retraining, they are guilty of naivete and a wasteful attitude towards their most important resource. Should they have to make any of their lawyers redundant they will



look pretty silly a couple of years hence when the market revives and they have to pay large agency fees to re-employ the same people they are now letting go.

According to Linda Packard, a management consultant who has been working with some "top ten" law firms on their forward planning, it is vital to build in flexibility to the career planning process. It may be complex but marketing, business strategy and the career progression of individuals has to be co-ordinated. "Knowing more and more about less and less is definitely a mistake," Ms Packard says.

However specialist a solicitor may be, he needs to be encouraged to have a second string and to take part in the training taking place in that field. Allen & Overy, for example, in line with many successful firms, holds "know-how" meetings and "second stringers" are encouraged to attend these regularly.

Worst of all, Ms Packard warns, is the firm where a partnership is regarded as a security for life. "Low motivation and complacency are the first signs of the truly unproductive partner," Ms Packard says. Adapt or die is the new message for those determined to survive.

The Law Society has relaxed the rules on specialisation and the naming of clients in marketing material

SOLICITORS in England and Wales will soon have even greater freedom to market their services. After a decision by the Law Society council last week, restrictions contained in the solicitors' practice rules will be further relaxed.

The most significant change will allow solicitors to publicise that they are specialists, a change endorsed by the society council despite attempts to block it. There were fears that if all solicitors claimed to be specialists it would undermine the society's specialist panels of members, composed of lawyers who have met criteria to confirm they have a record of expertise in the field. These panels exist in child care, mental health and insolvency, but there are plans to include personal injuries, for instance.

But as Walter Merricks, the

Publicity gates opened for solicitors

Law Society communications chief said: "The other view is that specialist panels must be able to stand on their own merits and not because they are buttressed by prohibitions which stop other solicitors laying claim to specialist expertise."

Another change is that solicitors will be able to name clients in publicity material, with their permission. Previously they could name clients "in the media" (for instance, in the course of an interview), but only with the client's consent. Naming clients in advertisements was not allowed. These rules are a source of bemusement: clarity has not been a strong point and their

transgression rarely receives more than a slap on the wrist. But with the rules clarified and relaxed, how will firms take advantage of the change? Most of the medium and large law firms have adopted promotional strategies to some extent. While brochures are *de rigueur*, a backdrop rather than business winner, emphasis is often placed on building profile through press exposure. The problem, however, is reconciling "news" with what the firm wants to say.

Outside the (flourishing) legal press, there is little interest in solicitors. What does interest the general press is the prominent City client approach in court on fraud charges or

the politician suing a tabloid for libel. Even then, the story will often appear without a mention of the solicitors.

Christopher Bramwell, the society's professional ethics chief, says: "The rule changes are a matter of realism. Some of the old rules were felt to fetter a solicitor's ability to compete against other solicitors and professions. Solicitors are in the business of competition, whether they like it or not."

Provided the naming of a client makes sense and the solicitor can substantiate the claim, the change – if approved by the Master of the Rolls – will take effect on September 1. So is the way forward through publicising clients

and deals? Might it provide a chance for firms to be more proactive for the client?

Linda Packard, head of marketing at Timmuss Sainer and Webb, says: "We have to think whether publicising a deal is in the client's interest. If it can be justified, and if the client is happy, we will go ahead, but not otherwise."

Peter Farren, Linklaters & Paines' public relations partner, said: "It is hard to know whether we are rooted in the 19th century or being objective, but my feeling is that the profession should be meticulous in not giving itself a vested interest or conflict in its clients' business."

Sometimes it is clients who

ask the firm to obtain publicity, although usually as advertising around a feature connected with the deal, rather than an editorial. "We have known of cases where firms have been reprimanded just for a tombstone ad," Ms Packard says, "so we currently decline advertising when a client asks us. But in future we will be able to do that, saying we acted for the client."

While promotion through clients is approached hesitantly, it is likely that, over time, both parties will feel comfortable with the solicitor managing the press on some (non-confidential) deals. No doubt within a few years it will be seen as a perfectly reasonable way to do things.

SARAH HALL
• The author is a consultant to the legal profession.

INNS AND OUTS

Kenia's President Moi saved the International Bar Association's biennial conference last month. However, his actions since have forced the association to cancel its biennial conference in Kenya, due to take place in September. It has been rescheduled for New York. The association gives two reasons for the cancellation: the spate of unrest which left 25 dead and many injured, leading the association to believe it could not guarantee delegates' safety, and a growing concern over the state of human rights and the rule of law in Kenya.

Had the conference gone ahead, there was a risk that the association would be lending support to a regime, which, the director Madeline May says, "has suppressed those attempting peacefully to express their political views and exercise their internationally recognised human rights". The association has come a long way from its origins as a lawyers' club, holding tax-deductible conferences in exotic locations. It has been gradually transforming itself into a more politically aware organisation, with the power to lobby.

The Law Society is not happy about the state of the provisions relating to rights of audience in the Courts and Legal Services Bill as it completes the committee stages in both Houses of Parliament. In its latest briefing, it states: "The risk remains that after all the rhetoric of the last two years, the bill will settle very little. Progress on rights of audience could yet be frustrated by the reluctance of the judges to see the Bar's monopoly weakened."

The state of play between the Bar Council and the Law Society can be judged in Chicago next month, when both bodies will occupy separate stalls to lay out their wares at the American Bar Association Conference. While there should be little call for Hawaiian shirts this year, the competition between the two to sell the services of their members should be a good spectator sport for those delegates bored with the official meetings.

A change in the law in Poland allows schools to be established outside the state monopoly of education. Until now, education in Poland has been tied to communist ideology. The process of change has been slow and many Polish parents are trying to establish their own schools. As Mirosława Gadomska, a member of the founding committee of one such school in Gdynia, says: "We aim to educate children in the spirit of liberty, freedom of thought and the ability to self-acquire knowledge and independence of opinion."

The community schools are struggling to find teachers trained in western methods and the funds in the country are crippled by economic problems. The Gdynia community school is determined to open its doors in September to 45 pupils aged between 11 and 12. However, as Ms Gadomska says: "We are really starting from zero, so we have to hire rooms, buy furniture, educational materials and instruments, and pay teachers." The school is seeking help from the West.

The memorial service for Sir Arthur Driver, former president of the Law Society, takes place today. Born on March 20, 1900, Sir Arthur died ten days before his 90th birthday, when he was due to present his portrait, painted by Michael Noakes, to the Law Society. Sir Arthur practised all his life with Jaques & Co, now Jaques & Lewis, and was senior partner from 1950 to 1970. His portrait will be presented to the Law Society by John Norham, the present senior partner, after the service.

Butler and its clients are all at sea – literally. The firm has organised a conference on HMS Cinderella over the three days it takes to sail from Stockholm to Helsinki and back. The lucky invitees will be wined and dined, with an opportunity for sightseeing. For those in need of rest from the entertainments, there will also be sessions on shipping litigation, insurance and maritime incidents.

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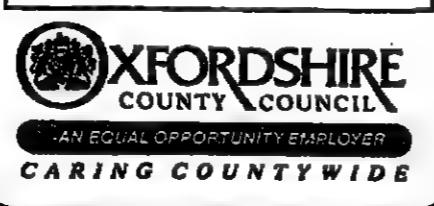
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Taking the fast route

Many graduates underestimate the potential of a management career in the fast-food restaurant sector, Derek Morgan reports

Food service is not the only thing that is fast about the quick-service restaurant sector. Recruiters seeking young talent highlight early responsibility and quick promotion as attractions in this booming industry. If you make the grade, after training and working as an assistant manager, you can be running your own restaurant within two years. A high-flyer could make faster progress.

Recruits should be entrepreneurial and have good people skills. Managers need to be high-profile active leaders. Pizza Hut, the largest pizza restaurant chain, says its trainee managers need an outgoing personality and a responsible attitude. Steven Whitelock, the company's northern regional personnel manager, says: "Our managers are not aloof people who just stand back and give orders. They will roll up their sleeves and give a hand where it is needed. Essentially, it is the manager's restaurant. Each Pizza Hut carries his or her personal stamp."

Qualifications or a knowledge of catering are not necessary for new starters. Mr Whitelock says: "It is the individual we are looking at and not the subject of their degree." He adds that a high proportion of the company's management comes up through the ranks. Previous part-time work in the field as a Saturday "crew" member would help an application.

The ability to work well in a team is vital. Mike Matthews, a regional operations manager for McDonald's and responsible for

51 restaurants and 3,000 employees, says: "There is no 'them' and 'us' in the company. It is a very informal organisation and it is all Christian names. Everybody, from secretaries to department heads and accountants, works for a time at the sharp end of the business. It is a team and everyone is there to serve the customer." All companies in the sector believe in management recruits starting "in uniform", working in a restaurant. Leadership is by example: "Do as I do, not as I say". A restaurant manager's job requires a multi-skill approach. Managers are responsible for staff recruitment and training, stock control and purchasing, customer service, local marketing, promotions, budgeting, equipment maintenance, security and community initiatives. Mr Matthews says: "One of the prime responsibilities of a McDonald's manager is to make it fun to come to work. The challenge is to make it a challenge for your staff."

He sees the good side as "on-the-job decision-making every day and running a restaurant with up

to 60 employees. You are the main man or woman". The downside is the unsocial long hours, weekend working and the pressure. It is a highly competitive market and "on-the-floor" results are the bottom line for holding down a job and for promotion.

Training in the sector usually involves intensive on-the-job experience, with an initial spell as a "crew rookie", along with residential weeks at management training centres. Training standards are rigorous and are strong on the psychology of motivation, but these programmes smack of regimentation that might stifle initiative? Mr Matthews says: "All big companies have a tight corporate hold on procedures, but the freedom is there for restaurant managers to run their businesses using their personalities to motivate staff and to try something different by way of sales incentives."

A third of McDonald's managers started as hourly paid basic crew. Ethnic minorities have done well, since restaurant staffing reflects the local community.

People with drive can go up the operations route of restaurant manager, supervisor, operations manager and regional manager, or they can progress to functional responsibility in personnel, marketing or finance.

Since the main companies are all international (Pizza Hut has 6,500 restaurants in 50 countries and McDonald's is now doing well in Moscow), there are opportunities for travel and working abroad. Mr Matthews was offered a job last year as an international operations manager setting up the company's first Golden Arches sites in Portugal. Experienced managers may also get the chance to take on a company franchise.

Many high-street chains are part of wider business groups and there could be opportunities to move to other parts of the catering field. Pizza Hut is run in the UK by Whitelock and PepsiCo. Mr Whitelock says there is staff movement between Whitelock's diverse activities (hotels, public house management, wine trade) at both senior and crew level. If you move out of catering altogether, you could well be in demand for your motivational and business skills, especially in retailing.

The sector acknowledges image problems in recruiting college-leavers and graduates. Mr Matthews says that this group does not always appreciate the scale of the McDonald's operation and the range of skills necessary. He points out that McDonald's is in the Dow Jones index of the top 30 companies in the United States, opens 40 new restaurants a year in the



CLARE BROGDEN works as a trainee manager at a busy McDonald's restaurant in Birmingham city centre. She joined McDonald's early this year as a management trainee after leaving an arts degree course in the second year. "I wanted to get started on a career," she says. "I feel I would be in as good a position with a year's work experience as if I'd stayed on at college."

Ms Brogden had worked evenings in McDonald's when at school and also at college, so she knew the job first-hand. "They are a very professional company with lots of openings. They do promote very much on merit, which appealed to me," she says.

She says the job offers equal opportunities. "There seem to be a lot of women going places with McDonald's. I have friends who have been promoted quickly. What about the work itself? "It is incredibly fast-moving and quite physical. You have to be very energetic. Initially, you learn all the stances, such as food preparation, cooking, serving and cleaning, as a crew member in uniform. Working in a crew helps pull you together." Recently she sat her promotions examination and is set to step up to second assistant manager. Her trainee salary is £10,000.

Ms Brogden acknowledges that the shift work would not suit everybody, but she enjoys the responsibility. "It is a challenging, hard-working atmosphere - there is an energy high," she says. She thinks graduates do not treat "fast food" as a serious career option. "People see it as a bigger bar, but you are actually running a business."

his mid-thirties after 20 years in the merchant navy. Salaries aim to be "distinctly competitive". A McDonald's restaurant manager earns £14,000 to £20,000, as well as a 12 per cent bonus if the restaurant achieves a £1.5-million turnover. Managers get a car after 18 months.

get a great chance to look at them in our environment."

Although it is perceived as a young business, opportunities are not confined to young people. McDonald's has been running an "over 50s" recruitment campaign. "People who have been in catering for 20 years

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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

071-481 1066

071-481 1066

DEPUTY CLERK OF LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Salary: Up to a maximum of £55,400 per annum (Pay award pending)

The County Council is seeking to appoint a Deputy Clerk to succeed Gordon Johnson, following his appointment as Chief Executive/Clerk of the County Council from the 1st January, 1991.

The Deputy Clerk is responsible to the Chief Executive/Clerk for the day to day management of the Chief Executive/Clerk's Department comprising some 400 staff covering a wide range of functions, including secretarial, legal, personnel, public relations and emergency planning.

Are you a solicitor with substantial management experience at a senior level in Local Government? Do you welcome a constant challenge, working under pressure and achieving results? If so, we would welcome your application.

An attractive remuneration package is offered including, Leased car/Essential User Allowance; Telephone expenses and a Relocation package of up to £3,872 (payable in approved cases.)

Application form and details available from/returnable to: Office Management Section, Chief Executive/Clerk's Department, PO Box 78, Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ, quoting Ref. No. 419/07/4.

Canvassing directly or indirectly will disqualify candidates.

Closing date: 8th August 1990.

This post is politically restricted under the Local Government & Housing Act 1988.

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SENIOR PROGRAMMER

District Computer Department based at Memorial Hospital Grade 6. Salary scale £21,962-£13,994 ps plus £940 London Weighting plus up to £4,300 proficiency payments. (Pay award pending).

We seek a suitably qualified and experienced person to supervise the district's programming and development needs and to advise as to Computer requirements in general.

He/she will be particularly responsible for evaluating software, developing, implementing and co-ordinating Computer Systems throughout the district.

You should have the technical ability commensurate with modern computing and system design methodologies as well as being able to communicate technically and non-technically.

Knowledge of C, Cobol, Paradox, WordPerfect, Oracle and Quattro would be an additional advantage but training will be given.

We are currently undertaking a major national and local developments in NHS computing and the successful applicant would be able to participate in these ventures.

The Health Authority operates a lease car scheme.

For an informal discussion contact George Stibey 081-855 5511, ext 4750/1. Send in CV or write for application form and job description to Arthur Phillips, Personnel Manager, District Headquarters, Directorate of Finance, Memorial Hospital, Shooters Hill, London SE18 3RZ. Telephone 081-855 5511, ext 4831 (24-hour answering service).

Closing date: Friday, August 31, 1990. Interviews expected to be held in the second week of September.

Take a Positive Step!

Wandsworth Health Authority is the largest Teaching District within the South West Thames Regional Health Authority, with individual Unit Revenue Budgets larger than those of many District Health Authorities. The developments occurring within the Wandsworth finance function as a result of the Government's NHS legislation has created an unprecedented demand for individuals who possess imaginative financial management and accounting skills.

The Authority is therefore looking to strengthen its financial service by recruiting up to a dozen new full-time or part-time staff who possess these scarce and valued skills.

The posts on offer are spread across all our Service Units and cover salaries from £12,000 to £30,000, so that whatever your current background, experience and skill level it is likely that we can offer you a post to suit your individual career needs.

As the largest Authority within the Region, Wandsworth can offer you excellent opportunities for both career and professional development with the added bonus of on site social, catering and sports facilities. Our links with a local Housing Association also mean that we can offer assistance in finding suitable accommodation where required and we can also provide crèche facilities and holiday pay schemes where appropriate.

If you are a part qualified Accountant, Accountant Technician or have the necessary qualifications to register as a student with one of the recognised accounting bodies and feel that you have the energy, commitment and creative flair required to make a real impact in a progressive organisation, then we would like to meet you. Our senior finance staff will be holding an open evening so that we can informally discuss with you the financial opportunities that Wandsworth Health Authority has to offer.

If you would like to book a place on our OPEN EVENING which will be held on Tuesday 31st July (5.00 - 8.00) please ring Christine Saunders the Director of Finance's Secretary on 081-572 1255 extension 52445

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A member of the Senior Management Team, your brief will be to lead and develop the business planning function in line with the requirements of the National Health Service White Paper 'Working for Patients'.

This challenging and exciting new role will give you the opportunity to put to use your qualifications and past experience in this changing environment. With an emphasis on contract setting you must be able to prepare and negotiate contracts, have a knowledge of

information systems and marketing, and be able to advise the Chief Metropolitan Ambulance Officer on such issues as budgets, costings, quality and information requirements.

South Yorkshire is an area which will offer you an abundance of affordable quality housing, good road and rail communication, easy access to the Peak District National Park, and excellent local services.

An application form and further details should be obtained from: The Personnel Officer, South Yorkshire Metropolitan Ambulance Service Headquarters, 'Fairfield', Moorgate Road, Rotherham S60 2BQ. Tel: 0709 828200 ext 258.

The closing date for applications is August 3, 1990.

WEST SUSSEX FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEE

BUDGET MANAGER

Salary: £20,110 + possible removal expenses

This is a newly created post resulting from the additional financial responsibilities given to FPCs as a result of recent Government White Papers.

The post holder will play a key role in establishing sound budgeting systems, the development of management accountancy and financial planning required due to major changes in the methods and philosophy of funding the primary Health Care Sector of the NHS. Priority will also be given to the arrangements for internal audit, which will also be included in the post holder's responsibilities.

If you have the qualities, energy, enthusiasm and ability to meet these targets, informal enquires will be welcomed by Bernard Dowling, Director of Administration and Finance, on 0243 781441 Ext 129.

For a job description and further information, please contact Nicky Channon, Personnel Officer, West Sussex FPC, 175 Boreham Road, Chichester PO19 4AD. Applications by CV to Mrs Channon at this address. Closing date: 3 August 1990.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued From Previous Page

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND New Zealand

THREE LECTURERS IN LAW Department of Law

The Department at present consists of 5 Professors, 5 Associate Professors, 11 Senior Lecturers and 10 Lecturers. It teaches a range of courses from undergraduate, Masters and PhD programmes.

As a result of planned expansion in student intake for 1991, three additional Lecturers will be recruited.

Applicants should have an advanced qualification. It is desirable that applicants have an interest in teaching and research in one of the following subjects in Law (Torts, Contract, Crimes, Public Law, Property (real or personal), Law of Evidence, and Constitutional Law) and an interest in research in any area of the law should not be determined by age.

The successful applicants will be required to teach and do undergraduate research.

Compensating salary will be established within the range £2536.000 - £2547.200 per annum.

Conditions of Appointment and Method of Application are available from: Appointments 1327/94, Associate of Commonwealth Universities, 36 Gordon Square, London, WC1H 0PF, UK, or from the Associate Registrar (Appointments), University of Auckland, Private Bag 92000, Auckland, New Zealand. Applications should be forwarded as soon as possible, but not later than the closing date 10 September 1990.

The University of Auckland

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PRESTIGIOUS W-E End practice is looking for a Partner to head its Maritime Department. Salary will naturally reflect the high quality of candidate. Please telephone: Mrs Pamela Handford 071-683-2382 (West) Eight Legal.

LEICESTERSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY

CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR

Salary: c£22,000pa

Heading the Audit Department of the County's largest Authority, the task will involve strategic development, drawing up and managing Audit Programmes, reviewing contracts and stimulating cost effectiveness throughout a combined budget of £225m revenue.

The Authority offers an atmosphere for the application of high professional and managerial standards and the locality offers space, amenity and quality of life.

Following the issue of the White Paper, the National Health Service is facing an exciting period of major change. If you are a qualified accountant with experience of audit and are attracted by the opportunity and a challenge presented by this post then contact Arthur Birrell, Director of Finance, Leicestershire Health Authority for an informal discussion or District Personnel Division, 28-38 Princess Road, West, Leicester (Tel: 0533 559777 ext 8617), for an application form and job description.

Closing date: July 18, 1990

Welsh bowlers on the receiving end as Worcestershire continue to pile up the runs

Glamorgan facing a mountainous task to beat champions

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ABERGAVENNY (second day of three): Worcestershire, with nine second-innings wickets standing, lead Glamorgan by 402 runs

DIFFERENT rules apply at Abergavenny. On this loveliest of county grounds, with its marble pitch and intimate boundaries, bowlers operate in hope rather than expectation. Even before the start of play yesterday, the men of Glamorgan were gloomily anticipating a last-day target of 500, something attained only once in championship history.

Their fate may not now be quite so harsh, but they will still be asked to make a county record fourth-innings score to beat the slumbering champions, Worcestershire. And, this place being what it is, and with Viv Richards featuring in the equation, one would not entirely discount their chances.

It would, however, be stretching a point to claim that the Glamorgan bowlers have enjoyed this latest trip around their out-grounds. Put to flight by Hick on Saturday, and by Rose at Neath on Sunday, they resumed their labours yesterday afternoon with fam-

tojures to bowlers explain much of their malfunctioning. Dilley and McEwan are still absent, and Radford, in an early spell, looked to be labouring painfully, though he did come back well to take

Richards's wicket with a ball of rare pace. Botham served up a bit of everything in his best improvising way and was rewarded with two wickets, a haul by the standards of this match.

Butcher and Morris shared their eighth century opening stand of the season and were then out in consecutive overs, leaving the stage to Cotter, the smallest player of his generation but not the least effective. Nudging and deflecting deftly, he reached his third century of the year, and his second in succession, from 119 balls.

Butcher immediately declared, with the knowledge that Neale would not enforce the follow-on. This advanced the game sensibly but Worcestershire, setting off again with a negotiated lead of 187, did not exactly sprint towards the final declaration.

Curtis has made one thousand one-day runs this season, in the fastest time ever recorded, but his championship form has been a sad contrast. This was his first half-century and it was not convincing. He enjoyed large slices of luck during a splendid spell from Watkin, who finally removed the more fluent of the openers, Bent.

Gatting in century spectacular

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

LEICESTER (final day of three): Leicestershire drew with the Indians

SOMETIMES even the most avid watcher of cricket has to confess to being baffled. There were one or two such people about at Grace Road yesterday, and our correspondent admits that he was one of them.

It was possible to guess that the reasons why Briers declined to set the Indians a target worth the name had something to do with the visitors winning the toss, electing to field, and having failed to bowl out Leicestershire in the first innings, batting on for the considerable time after tea on the second. There may just have been something left over from the corresponding match in 1986 which ended unsatisfactorily.

Instead of setting the Indians a task within the realms of 275 runs from 50 overs, a distinct possibility after Justin Benson had set Leicestershire off and running with a stylish 100 and Willey had weighed in with 76, the Leicestershire captain changed his batting tactics. In came the bowlers, to resist rather than to look for quick runs. Briers, himself, and Whitaker were held back, al-

though Whitaker was forced to come in to block out a few overs before a desirous declaration left the Indians needing 248 runs at eight per over.

It was, naturally, a task they scarcely attempted. Lewis showed that the illness which kept him off the field most of Sunday was but a passing phase by taking two of their wickets, following his brisk 28 runs earlier in the afternoon, but there was only profit in dwelling on the day's bright spots.

The brightness of these was Benson's innings. This was Benson's maiden first-class century and he could not have made himself more forceful. His runs came from only 128 balls and from his three towering straight drives and 12 fours. Both he and Willey, too, showed a heartening return to form after a lean spell, took Hirwani to task in a big way and the leg spinner may be in danger of missing the first Test match in favour of Kumble.

Raju, the left-arm bowler, had a good afternoon, however, his four wickets resulting from clever variation on a theme of accuracy. Otherwise, there was not much in it for the crowd.

Whitaker was No. 3 in the order and went in while the score remained 39 as Essex lost Stephenson, Gooch and Waugh

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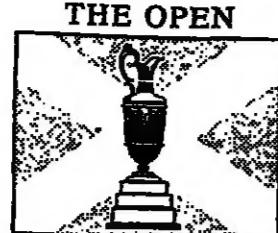
Record crowds will not pave way for an all-ticket Open

THE Open Championship at St Andrews will make around £300,000 less profit than was hoped because of the strength of the pound. Michael Bonalack, the Royal and Ancient Club secretary, said yesterday that all television contracts had been negotiated in dollars, and that will hit the amount of money that will be made.

"The exchange rate has gone against us and the lost income against our original budget is about £300,000," he said.

The 119th Open, which cost £3.5 million to stage, should enable about £1.5 million to be put back into the sport, however, and it will still be regarded as a huge success. Over 200,000 people attended, and Saturday's crowd figure of nearly 44,000 was a record.

"We knew we were going to get a very large crowd and we did," Graeme Simmers, chair-



THE OPEN



ST ANDREWS

man of the championship committee, said. "They were very knowledgeable and very well behaved, even if the change down the 18th at the end was not perfectly planned."

Nick Faldo had to break into a run to avoid the crush as he approached the 18th green, but by then he was five shots ahead, and the circling of the green by spectators might not have been allowed if the climax had been much tighter.

David Hill, the champ-

ionship secretary, praised the job done by between 600 and 700 marshals — all from local clubs — around the Old Course. "I don't think people realise how much work goes into organising things," he said. "We always pride ourselves on the fact that we don't have a heavy police presence."

There are no plans to follow the example of the Ryder Cup and make the Open all-ticket. "A father can bring his son to watch the Open and that's how it should be," Simmers said. "We had just about the maximum number we can cope with here, but we don't want to go all-ticket because of the problem we could then face with the black market."

The stands around the course were able to seat approximately 22,000 people, 10,000 of them by the 1st and 18th holes, and one thing the Royal and Ancient may consider for the return of the event to the home of golf in six years' time is an increase in the number of mounds.

Faldo's winning score of 270, 18 under and the lowest at St Andrews by six strokes, prompted comments that the historic course, unaltered for nearly 80 years, is too easy. Bonalack said: "Players are much more proficient now and the balls they use are so good aerodynamically, but we can't alter the Old Course. The object of the exercise, though, is to find the best golfer in the world, and there is no question that this week did that."

Two other members of the England team are qualified for this under-18 championship for the Carris Trophy — Paul Sherman, winner this year of the McEvoy Trophy, and Michael Welch, a boys' international last year and the England captain in this season.

YACHTING

Leaks end Tolkien's solo quest

By KEITH WHEATLEY

RICHARD Tolkien has pulled out of the solo BOC Round the World Race. He decided after sailing to France and back last weekend that his new 60ft water-ballooned monohull has too many problems to attempt a 26,000-mile race beginning in only eight weeks.

"We're just not going to be ready in time," said Tolkien, aged 35, who is an investment banker. His problems centre on the two huge tanks which contain over 1,000 gallons of water ballast. Once offshore, leaks began to fill the bilges of the high-tech yacht.

"You can't sail round the world in a boat that's filling up with water and we haven't enough days left to put things right. I've put a year of my life into this and it makes me very angry," he said.

The boat was built at Exmouth by Spud Rouse and Philip Morris. A planned launch date of March 1 was delayed until late May. Only last week Tolkien announced major sponsorship from Morgan Grenfell, the city bank that employs him.

His withdrawal leaves Britain without an entry in class one of the race, which now has 25 entrants and starts from Newport, Rhode Island, on September 15. Josh Hall, sailing Spirit of Ipswich, in class two will now be Britain's major hope.

The abrupt departure of Valdemar Bandowski has left Denmark's America's Cup challenge in disarray. Bandowski formed the challenge in 1987 with the backing of Tuborg and set up a major project office outside Copenhagen.

A statement from the group spoke of "policy differences". Insiders say that Bandowski was impatient with budgetary restraints.

IN BRIEF

Rosberg joins Peugeot team

KEKE Rosberg, the 1982 Formula One champion, will debut Peugeot's sports racing car, a V10 engine powered Peugeot 007 chassis, at the world sports prototype championship round at Montreal, Canada.

Withdrawals

India and Spain have withdrawn from the four nations hockey tournament in Paris from August 31 to September 2.

Surtees back

John Surtees, the former world champion, will take to the wheel of the only surviving D-type grand prix Auto Union car during the two-day Christie's festival at Silverstone next weekend.

Knights aided

Brixton Knights, the English women's volleyball champions, have signed a two-year sponsorship deal, worth about £3,500, with the Woolwich building society.

High fliers

Gordon Rigg, aged 28, of New Mills, Stockport, has won the Trofeo Internazionale Volo Libero hang gliding competition at Monte Cucco, near Assisi, Italy. Doug Crosby, of Patley Bridge, Yorkshire, was second, and Andy Wallis, of Sheffield, seventh.

Helpful wind lets down Bashford

By BARRY PICKTHALL

IAN Bashford, the Australian winner of Sunday's practice race for the Rothmans J24 world championship, had victory snatched from him during the last stages of the first race after leading throughout yesterday's skirmish off Dun Laoghaire, Ireland.

Bashford and his crew made the best of the Force 5 winds experienced at the start and built up what appeared to be an unassassable three-and-a-half-minute lead over the American Jim Brady, at the final turning mark.

It was the wind, however, which also proved his undoing, as for the breeze died to a point Force 3, the Australian became so engrossed in covering Brady, that he allowed the third placed boat, skippered by Dave Curtis, to sail a blistering last leg to snatch the winning gun. To

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Merit increases lead over Brent Walker

By BARRY PICKTHALL

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It was also a disappointing day for the British. Glyn Beaujangles was the sole UK entry in a top ten dominated by American sailors. Charles ended the day in eighth place followed by Paddy Atkinson in 14th, David Bedford, the British champion, sailing Perpol, who set sail in the morning in such high spirits, returned a little more than just dejected by his 40th placing.

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SPORT

TUESDAY JULY 24 1990

Champion pursues perfection

By MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK Faldo's triumph over the hallowed links of the Old Course at St Andrews won him more than a fourth major title and a cheque for £85,000. Faldo's five-stroke success in the 119th Open Championship at the home of golf on Sunday earned him the respect of a nation surprised to learn that he is unpopular in some quarters.

Yet not even his severest critic could fail to be impressed by the way that the once truculent Faldo has learned to manage his life to become the best known sportsman in Britain. He passed himself at St Andrews, side-stepping the assaults on his personality to concentrate solely on winning the title for a second time.

Faldo may have been at times curiously aloof and alarmingly candid. But throughout his career from an amateur to the model, and wonderfully successful, professional golfer of today, he has never shown a sign of malicious intent.

When, in his formative years as a professional, he reported Sandy Lyle for a breach of the rules it was out of commitment to the game rather than a criticism of his rival. Faldo felt he was doing his duty.

It is the word commitment which best illustrates Faldo. He has left nothing to chance since the age of 11, when his parents, George and Joyce, presented him with a racing bicycle. The young Faldo locked himself in the garage, stripped the machine down and reassembled it so that he was sure it was ready for road racing.

He has always expected there to be no substitute for diligence in the search for perfection. He hired David Leadbetter because he saw in the British-born teacher a person to whom he could relate. Faldo's obsession for success ignited Leadbetter's enthusiasm. They stand together for hours on the practice range, seeking what could be viewed the ultimate explanation of golf. Faldo is not so much interested in why he hits a poor shot, he wants to know why he hits a good one. This year Faldo has worked on creating more torque and more coil in his swing. The key was to move the club back to the eight o'clock position and to feel the butt of the club closer to his right thigh. He sets up slightly steeper, with the elbows spread a little wider, enabling him to wind and coil to get onto his right side with the club a little closer to the top rather than toed down. It makes him feel taller at impact.

Faldo was entitled to feel taller yesterday morning. He has won two Masters and two Open championships in three years, an achievement unsurpassed in the history of British golf. He is the best

golfer of his generation and possibly the best British golfer of all time.

Faldo is naturally reserved when it comes to discussing the number of major championships he might win, although I would not put it beyond him to take his tally to ten before he has finished.

Faldo has suggested he will go hard at it for the next ten years, although that may be optimistic. He is 33 years old with 15 years as a professional behind him; five years might be more realistic.

The clue to Faldo's continued success lies in his self-motivation. There are no question marks when it comes to ability, as he showed at St Andrews by destroying Greg Norman in the third round. Coral, the bookmakers, make him 9-2 to become the first player in history to win the Masters, Open and US PGA Championship in the same year.

In 1984, Faldo's hopes of winning at Shoal Creek, where the US PGA takes place again next month, were ended when his ball found a watery grave at the 18th in the final round. His main obstacle next month may be the hot and humid conditions rather than his rivals. Norman will need to dispel thoughts that he is not meant to add to his one major championship and Severiano Ballesteros, who has one more title to his credit than Faldo but who missed the cut at St Andrews, must rediscover the inspiration which has deserted him.

Yet the desire to improve remains with Faldo. He wants to learn to draw the ball from right to left with greater ease and he wants to increase his repertoire of shots. He has absolute faith in Leadbetter and together they will work to keep Faldo at the top.

Faldo will reduce the number of tournaments in which he competes next year from 30 to 25 and he will also take two months off in the winter. He does not intend to play prior to the US PGA Championship, which starts on August 9, but will appear in the Panasonic European Open at Sunningdale, the Suntory World Match Play at Wentworth and the Dunhill Cup at St Andrews. He might also return to play for England in the World Cup of Golf, which would revitalise that event, with Sandy Lyle and Ian Woosnam as possibles for Scotland and Wales respectively.

Their problem then might be that the phenomenal Faldo will be rested and ready to win. He intends to take time off with his family and to enjoy some fishing.

The only mistake he may have made over the last two years is to let go the chance of buying a stretch of the River Test for £200,000. It is valued today at £2 million. But he is not only the best golfer in the world - he is also human.



Smiling champion: Nick Faldo enjoys the morning after feeling in company with the priceless old claret jug

Faldo to launch academy

By MITCHELL PLATTS

NICK Faldo is to launch his own academy, with a series of golf ranges offering child protégés the opportunity to open the door to championship glory.

The "Golf For All" campaign will begin at seven sites, five in London boroughs, with children from local schools offered free tuition.

"I'm very excited by the project, especially as we've come so far so quickly," Faldo said. "The councils we've spoken to have loved the idea.

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people, especially children, from all walks of life, the chance to play this great game.

The driving ranges will do that, although it will not be a case of a mat and a bucket of balls. What we are looking to do is to create a superior facility, with a futuristic look.

Then the kids can get the best possible start.

"I was 14 when I started to play the game seriously and I had to practice on the school playing fields. In my early days at Welwyn Garden City Golf Club it was often a case of sneaking a hole here and there because as a junior I had no rights to play the course and as far as the practice range was concerned I couldn't hit more than a five-iron," Simpson said.

"I want our ranges to give

everyone the opportunity to improve, and youngsters the chance to at least decide if they have an aptitude for the game."

Faldo will use his expertise to create nine-hole courses around the driving ranges which will be set in areas of 70 to 100 acres. John Simpson, who handles Faldo's affairs for the International Management Group, pointed out that the Bride Hall property company, to whom Faldo is attached, will be responsible for construction.

"The deal, of course, has to be commercially viable, which it is, but the bottom line for Nick is that youngsters, especially in the cities, should get the chance to play," Simpson said. "We have also

spoken to authorities in the northeast and Scotland.

"Quality will be the key. I've been to Japan to see how good their ranges are. It struck me as being a good idea and Nick and I are very encouraged by the response so far from all the boroughs and councils we have spoken to."

Faldo's regard for children's welfare was high when he gave his prize-money of £100,000 from the Suntory World Match Play Championship last year to four charities for children. He is also to make a video, supported by Weetabix, to educate children on how best to get started, on the etiquette of the game and how to go about improving their swing.

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